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Saipan Tribune

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:
Are you looking forward to this year's holiday season?

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52 DAYS without a government budget for FY 2009

INSIDE

Fierce Beyonce

With a new album and two movies on the horizon, it appears the Season of Beyonce has begun.

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Sexiest Man

Hugh Jackman has been crowned People magazine's "Sexiest Man Alive."

LIFE & STYLE...Page 28

Funds eyed to make NMI nursing board profitable. PAGE 6
Revitalized Susupe Beach Park launched tomorrow. PAGE 7

Third murder suspect falls

Police recover several laptops stolen from MHS

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Police arrested Wednesday night a third suspect—a male juvenile—in the killing of security guard Efren L. Ballesteros at Marianas High School.

The 16-year-old suspect, who is also a student at MHS, was taken before Superior Court associate judge David Wiseman yesterday afternoon for a bail hearing.

Wiseman opened the hearing to the public after chief prosecutor Kevin Lynch informed him that the suspect is being charged as an adult. Although authorities have already released the names of the two juvenile suspects, the *Saipan Tribune* will for the

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US Consul General vows assistance for IRs in NMI

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

The Consul General for the United States in Guam has promised to help resolve issues relating to the people in the CNMI with Immediate Relative status, according to United Workers Movement president Irene N. Tantiado.

Tantiado said she was able to talk with U.S. Consul General Gerson Jackson on Wednesday via telephone, and that the lengthy discussion was "promising."

The United Workers Movement is initiating actions in anticipation of the U.S. federal government's takeover of the

See US on Page 4

'CUC owes PMIC $1.5 million'

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. reportedly owes Pacific Marine and Industrial Corp., which operates Power Plant 4, more than $1.5 million.

The utility company has failed to pay PMIC $1,552,462.22 since the July 16-31, 2008, billing period, a source who asked not to be identified said.

The source said PMIC management feels CUC is playing favorites in what power producer they pay, citing the recent payment of $504,000 to Aggreko International for the emergency generators.

During the height of the power crisis, before the emergency generators were turned on, PMIC was providing 14.7

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Tale of a gruesome crime

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Police say two of the three suspects in the killing of security guard Efren L. Ballesteros have confessed to the crime, saying that they attacked the victim with a piece of wood, a PVC pipe, and a rebar before breaking into several classrooms at Marianas High School where they stole laptops and money.

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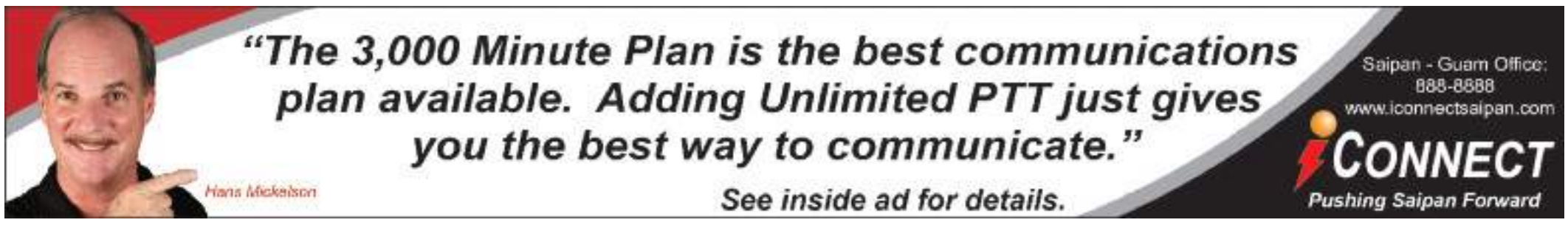
Efren Ballesteros' wife, Adelaida Abella, carries their son, who just turned five months on Tuesday, the day when Ballesteros was found dead after he was attacked and robbed allegedly by three teenage students at Marianas High School.Inset shows Ballesteros' company ID.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE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Local

Untalan: CHC may stop elective surgery

By KRISTI EATON
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Health Center may have to curtail elective surgeries if they are not able to hire another anesthesiologist, said Pete Untalan, deputy secretary for Hospital Administration.

CHC currently employs two anesthesiologists, but one is leaving soon and the other one has indicated he is reluctant to stay on board if he is the sole anesthesiologist at the hospital, Untalan said.

He said hospital officials have been looking for a third anesthesiologist for about a year but have been unsuccessful.

"The primary issue is salary," he said in an e-mail. "[There is] a [v]ery big discrepancy from our current salary to what Guam is advertising to recruit this type of practitioner."

Salaries for medical professionals currently are capped at $50,000, but the House and Senate have passed a bill raising the cap. It is currently awaiting Gov. Benigno Fitial's signature to become law.

Fitial earlier vetoed a bill exempting medical professionals, attorneys, accountants, engineers, and architects working in government from the $50,000 cap. The bill also would have allowed unspecified professionals working at the Legislature and the Judiciary to receive up to $60,000 a year. Fitial vetoed the bill because he said the language was too broad and too vague.

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Commerce rebasing CPI

By KRISTI EATON
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REPORTER

The Department of Commerce is working with the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Census Bureau to rebase the CNMI's consumer price index.

The CPI is the average price of various commodities that federal officials study when determining how much assistance an aid recipient should get under initiatives like the Nutrition Assistance Program, the Women, Infants and Children program and Medicaid.

The rebasing is needed because of the disparity of commodity prices and availability within the CNMI, said Commerce Secretary Michael Ada.

Some items on Saipan are cheaper than on Tinian and Rota because of the extra costs to ship them to the islands. And some of the items used in the CPI aren't even available on Rota and Tinian, Ada said.

Although data is collected from all over the CNMI, Ada said these two issues could influence the final numbers.

"Having the lower cost here misrepresents the high costs there," he said.

NAP was having issues because of the price disparities between the islands. For example, Saipan food stamp recipients can often buy more if the allotment is based on price commodities on Saipan.

Another way to reflect the islands' price discrepancies is to do a separate CPI for each of the islands, Ada said, but that is not the optimal solution because it's too costly.

The CPI was created in 1977 and rebased in 2003. Currently 762 items divided in nine groups make up the CPI.

CUC yet to provide Fitial with plans to comply with EPA regs

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Antonio Muña said the utility company has not provided Gov. Benigno Fitial regulatory agency permits or compliance plans for the Aggreko generators, as the governor directed.

In the Oct. 5 CUC declaration of a state of emergency, Fitial said CUC desires to comply with environmental and land use regulations but feared the permitting process would delay or interrupt the Aggreko service. He suspended statutes and regulations relating to the generators, but directed CUC within 30 days to provide him a plan for compliance, a copy of each agency's permits or a complete explanation why compliance was not achieved and how it will be achieved.

"We're going to work with them. I understand the governor, as far as compliance plans," Muña said. "We've advised the governor, that's where we're at at this point."

Fitial's September CUC state of emergency order suspended local regulations but did not suspend federal regulations. Muna earlier said the Division of Environmental Quality was handling the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regulations.

All parties involved are in constant communication, Muña said.

"The whole process right now is this dialogue that's taking place…with DEQ, and DEQ with EPA, and when EPA comes over here, we'll be a part of that," he said.

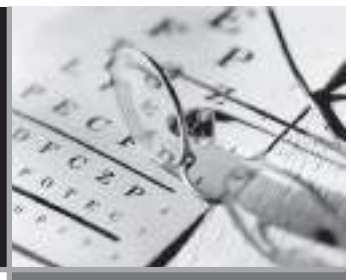
EPA officials will be on island next month for work with DEQ, said Dean Higuchi, spokesman for EPA's Region 9. Although the visit is not specifically to address the generator issue, it will probably be checked, Higuchi said.

Muña said CUC wants to comply with regulatory standards but the power situation is unique.

"We really have to come to terms with these exigent circumstances," he said. "We're not out of the woods yet."

Earlier, Higuchi said EPA realized the magnitude of Saipan's power crisis and was working with the CNMI government to offer help. On Tuesday, Higuchi said EPA was still gathering information and evaluating the situation. ***(Kristi Eaton)***

November is DIABETES AWARENES MONTH



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Rota man arrested for alleged abuse of 3 girls

Police arrested on Wednesday 34-year-old man who allegedly sexually abused three minors on Rota.

Alvin A. Pinaula was brought to the Superior Court on Saipan yesterday afternoon for sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree and second degree.

Associate Judge David A. Wiseman imposed a $60,000 cash bail for Pinaula's temporary liberty.

Detective George Barcinas said the investigation started last Aug. 30 when a woman reported to police that the defendant sexually abused her daughter.

Barcinas said the complainant told police that Pinaula may also have sexually abused other girls.

The investigation led to the discovery that the defendant also sexually abused two other minors.

Barcinas said that when he interviewed Pinaula last Sept. 30, the defendant admitted sexually abusing the three minors.

Pinaula allegedly insisted he doesn't know why he did it and that he needs help. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

TALE

From Page 1

Detective Simon T. Manacop said that Eric Rabauliman, 18, and the first 16-year-old suspect made the confession during an interview with detectives at the Department of Public Safety's Criminal Investigation Division Tuesday night.

Manacop said the juvenile had admitted that on the evening of Nov. 17, he first met up with Rabauliman in San Jose. They then walked to Chalan Kanoa where they met the third suspect, another 16-year-old male. All three are MHS students.

Rabauliman allegedly brought up the idea of stealing laptops from MHS. The three walked to MHS, but decided to first obtain weapons from an unfinished construction site within the campus.

The first juvenile suspect told police that he was armed with a 2x2 piece of wood, while Rabauliman got a half-inch diameter PVC pipe. The third suspect had the rebar.

The plan, according to the first juvenile suspect, was to knock out the security guard so they could take their time in breaking into the rooms and won't be caught.

The three allegedly sneaked up on Ballesteros from behind as he was lying on the concrete bench along the hallway and attacked him. The first juvenile suspect was reportedly the first to swing the wood at Ballesteros. The wood immediately broke in half. Rabauliman and the second juvenile then began hitting the guard with their weapons.

Rabauliman stopped hitting the guard after his pipe shattered. The third suspect, however, continued hitting the guard with the rebar. The first juvenile told him to stop, but the latter reportedly replied he wanted to make sure that the guard was knocked out.

After the attack, the third suspect told the two to follow him toward the backside of Building A and B. The three reportedly got inside room B201 and 202 by opening a plywood that secured the top of an air-conditioning unit. After taking several laptops, they then proceeded to the JROTC Building where the second juvenile said they might find money because fundraising tickets had been sold.

The second juvenile threw a rock on the glass window, then climbed through it and unlocked the door. The three got $100 and one laptop.

After taking the items, the three again checked Ballesteros, who was still lying on the bench.

The three went out the campus the same way they went in. They walked along the beachside toward the home of the second juvenile in Chalan Kanoa District 4. When they got to the house, they hid all the laptops in the bushy area just behind the residence.

The second juvenile changed his shirt and told the two to go with him to Chalan Kanoa District 3 so he could give one of the laptops to a friend in exchange for money.

The first juvenile reportedly told police that while they were walking through Welcome Laundry, a police officer stopped them then took the laptop they were carrying.

Detective Manacop said that, shortly after the confession, detectives went to the residence of the second juvenile where they recovered the stolen laptops hidden in a bushy area. Manacop said these laptops were the same ones stolen from MHS. He said police recovered five laptops, but seven are still missing.

Young artists to exhibit creative skills

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

Twenty-two budding artists from junior and high schools on Saipan will display their creativity and artistry with their depictions of the many sides of life with Coke in today's awarding ceremonies at the Glimpses of Guam offices in Gualo Rai.

The activity, dubbed "Coke Side of Life" can decorating and poster contests, was launched on Oct. 1. All entries were submitted on Nov. 11.

The awarding ceremony had been set at 4pm today.

Glimpses' Virgie Avendano said a similar event was held in Guam and this is the first time it is being held on Saipan.

For can decorating, the contestants used a can of any Coke family product and any material that would stick to the can such as hot glue, acrylic, spray paint, beads, glitter, and stickers to express their ideas.

The top three winners will win prizes such as cases of Powerade and Dasani, t-shirts, Foremost orange juices, gift certificates from Subway, Shell gas certificates, etc.

The criteria for judging include creativity (40 points), artistic quality (30), adherence to the theme of the contest (20), and adherence to contest rules (10).

The contest was open to students who are 13 to 18 years old and are currently enrolled in any private or private junior high school or high school on Saipan.

For the poster contest, the artists were provided a color template of the Coke Bottle Burst where they expressed their creativity by using paint, marker, highlighter or any medium they preferred.

The top three winners for the poster contest will also receive corresponding prizes and the criteria for judging will be the same as that of the can-decorating contest.

CUC

From Page 1

to 15 megawatts to CUC continuously, although they are only contracted to provide 10.1 megawatts. PMIC is still providing up to 15 megawatts during peak load times or when an engine at CUC's Power Plants 1 or 2 go down. PMIC has yet to produce less than 10.1 megawatts, the source said.

During the island's recent three-hour outage, Power Plant 4 was able to isolate itself and become the first system to go back online and offer feed power, in order to restore the system, the source said.

PMIC's contract with CUC was renewed in 2006 for another 10 years. ***(Kristi Eaton)***

US

From Page 1

immigration system in the CNMI in June 1, 2009. There have been much concern and worry about the status of immediate relatives of U.S. citizens after the takeover.

The IRs in the CNMI are mostly alien spouses of citizens from the Freely Associated States, including from the Republic of Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Palau and the CNMI. The United Workers Movement estimates the number to be about 250-300.

Tantiado said that Jackson asked the United Workers Movement to provide him with more information and promised to talk with consular officials from Palau and Marshall Islands about the situation.

Tantiado said she called the Foreign Affairs Office in FSM but they referred her to Consul General Jackson because FSM and the CNMI are both under the Guam consulate office.

In a follow-up letter to Jackson after their initial telephone discussions, Tantiado explained that the federalization law (US Public Law 110-229) provides that the IR status will be honored until it expires from June 1, 2009 or two years after, whichever is shorter.

"After that, the IR needs to join the CNMI workforce under a different category called CNMI-only guest workers program to be able to stay here and be with their FAS spouses and children," Tantiado wrote.

Most of the FAS citizens and their alien spouses, she said, have been married for five to 15 years.

UWM is pushing for a one-time waiver to maintain the worker status of the so-called IRs for a period of five years. This would eventually make them FAS citizens as well because the minimum residency status requirement to become such is five years.

"There are two critical issues that need attention," Tantiado told Jackson.

First is the need to include these IRs in the proposed amendments to the CNMI Immigration System, which will allow a two-year permit instead of one year to stretch their IR status "as far as we can."

She said the amendments would take effect on Jan. 1, 2009.

UWM just launched a signature campaign among FAS citizens to ask the CNMI Immigration Division to include their IRs in the proposed amendments. The deadline to submit the petition is on Monday, Nov. 24. As of now, only a few have signed.

Perhaps, she said, these people do not realize the issue's importance and she feared that their names would not be included on the list of those who would be granted a waiver.

But Tantiado explained that they are also very careful in accepting signatures because the petition might fall into the hands of individuals who have engaged in fraudulent means such as illegal marriages.

"We have to carefully screen them. We don't want to be involved in those illegal activities. We will make sure that those who will sign are really those who are qualified," she said.

Another critical issue the group is hoping to achieve is to obtain a political status for the IRs.

"The only long-term solution for the IRs is to have a stable status in the CNMI, which means that they have to convert to FAS citizenship," she said.

Thus, UWM is soliciting the help of the consular offices of Palau, RMI, and Guam for a one-time residency waiver because "after the permit of the IRs expires and they cannot find a job, they will be forced to leave the CNMI."

THIRD

From Page 1

moment withhold their names.

Wiseman imposed no bail and set the preliminary hearing for Nov. 26 at 9am and the arraignment for Dec. 1 at 9am.

Police Officer 2 Jason Tarkong said that police recovered evidence related to the crime during a search in the juvenile's house.

Among the recovered evidence, Tarkong said, were personal items from Ballesteros and several laptops assigned to MHS.

"Weapons involved in the assault of the victim included a two-by-four [piece of wood], an iron rebar, and a shattered PVC pipe. These items were recovered and taken into evidence," he said.

Detective Simon Manacop, the lead investigator in the case, was reportedly able to piece crucial evidence together that led to the arrest of the two juvenile suspects and Eric Rabauliman, 18.

Police first arrested Rabauliman and the first juvenile suspect early Wednesday morning.

Tarkong said the crucial evidence included a laptop computer that was recovered by Police Officer Mike Palacios, who was on routine patrol when the crime was committed. He said that Palacios came upon the suspects and the evidence at an undisclosed location.

In a separate report, Detective Manacop said that Palacios saw three male individuals walking out from the Welcome Laundry in Chalan Kanoa at 3:16am Tuesday.

After asking the names of the three, Palacios checked a black bag that was left by one of the males on top of a table inside the laundry. The officer saw a T-shirt with possible bloodstains placed on top of the bag. When the officer opened the bag, he saw a silver laptop with an identification tag "CNMI PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEMS, GOV'T NUMBER 29495 US."

Another officer arrived to assist Palacios. The second officer reviewed the surveillance camera at the laundry shop. Palacios then secured the evidence and provided detectives with a description of the three male suspects in his report.

It was 6:13am of the same day, Tuesday, when DPS received the call about the dead security guard at MHS.

Later at 9:45am, another detective went back to Welcome Laundry where he obtained a copy of the recorded footage.

That night, DPS detectives divided into teams, with each one given a photocopied pictures of the three suspect. The images were taken from the video surveillance tape.

When detectives scoured the Chalan Kanoa area, many witnesses positively identified the three suspects.

Later that night, detectives went to the residence of Rabauliman and the first juvenile suspect in San Jose and brought the two to the police station.

During interview with detectives, Rabauliman and the suspect reportedly confessed to being responsible for the MHS crime.

Tarkong said a tipster also called the Crime Stoppers hotline and provided the name and information of the suspect(s) involved in the murder. He said this led to the interview and arrest of the first two suspects early Wednesday morning.

"I would like to recognize the hard work of Detective Simon Manacop, the lead case agent, Sgt. Sylvan Rangamar, the officer in charge of DPS Criminal Investigation Bureau, and their investigators for an outstanding job," Tarkong said.

Tarkong also mentioned the good work of Patrol Officer Palacios for recovering the stolen items and the Crime Stoppers tipster who helped lead to the arrest of the suspects.

"Although arrests were made, the investigation is still ongoing and the release of any information regarding this case is limited," he added.

Ballesteros, 45, a Filipino, was found dead by an MHS employee Tuesday morning. The victim was lying face down by a concrete bench under the main entrance hallway.

Ballesteros sustained massive injuries to the face and head caused by some type of blunt object or objects, according to DPS. The security guard also suffered a possible fractured skull.

Investigators who responded to the scene also discovered that several classrooms and the JROTC building had been burglarized and some items were stolen.

House wants new priority in govt's pension payments

The House of Representatives has passed a bill requiring the CNMI government to prioritize and pay the pension contributions of employees who are eligible to retire.

The bill passed by a 17-1 vote, with Rep. Tina Sablan opposing the measure. Rep. Joseph Reyes, a former chairman of the NMI Retirement Fund's board of trustees, abstained. House Floor Leader Joseph James Camacho was absent.

The measure, now headed to the Senate for its action, is designed to help eligible employees who have not been able to retire because the NMI Retirement Fund had stopped processing retirement applications of members with deficient contributions.

Proponents of the bill say that employees should not be penalized or denied their retirement because of the government's inability to contribute to the pension program.

"I feel and I believe that it is just not right for our employees to be mandated to pay for employees' contribution for 20 years with the promise that they can retire upon this 20 years of service, and after meeting that eligibility, they are being told that they can't retire because the government cannot pay its employer contribution. This is not the way to reward our government employees who has served our government for 20 years or more," said Rep. Ralph Torres, sponsor of the bill.

Sablan, the only one to vote against the bill, said she originally considered supporting the bill, but changed her mind after Rep. Joseph Deleon Guerrero raised deep concerns about the impact that the bill would have on individual agencies' budgets.

She said, "He [Deleon Guerrero] gave the example of one individual he knew of whose deficient employer contributions totaled $230,000. Mandating that that deficient contribution be paid for in its entirety above all other expenses would cripple that agency.

"And he also argued that it would be better to approach the problem more comprehensively and suggested that the approach suggested in the joint conference budget bill—pooling all the Retirement Fund contributions from the central government—would be more workable and that deficiencies in employer contributions should rightly be addressed in the appropriations bill. I thought Joe's argument was the most persuasive."

Despite these concerns, Deleon Guerrero voted in favor of the bill. ***(Agnes E. Donato)***

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Funds eyed to make NMI nursing board profitable

By AGNES E. DONATO
agnes_donato@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Lawmakers are set to approve funding for the Commonwealth Board of Nurse Examiners after the agency recently disclosed that the Northern Marianas could make as much as $1 million from issuing certifications to Filipino nurses interested in taking the U.S. licensing test.

A joint committee of Senate and House members, which crafted the latest version of the fiscal year 2009 budget, has inserted a new provision appropriating $100,000 to the nursing board. With the money, the board is expected to hire an executive director and additional staff needed to make the nursing board "a revenue-generating program for the CNMI government," states a report by the committee.

"Even though foreign nationals may take the NCLEX in places such as the Philippines, applicants must still get approval from the United States before taking the exam. This creates the potential for the CNMI to generate revenues. It has been reported that $100,000 in revenues were generated in FY2008 from this process, and there is a potential for as much as $1 million in annual revenues," the committee report adds.

The CNMI has seen a huge drop in the number of nurses taking the National Council Licensure Examination since Manila started offering the test in August last year. But according to the local nursing board, the Northern Marianas can continue to profit from the NCLEX market by repositioning itself as a facilitation office for Filipino nurses who are seeking to be certified to take the test.

All nursing graduates are required to get the certification from a nursing board in the U.S. jurisdiction before they can take the NCLEX. Currently, the CNMI nursing board charges $110 for each certification. The fee differs from state to state.

Based on information from the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, there are 20,410 nursing tests taken in Manila since the city was designated as an international NCLEX site in February 2007.

But the Commonwealth is losing out on this revenue-generating opportunity because the nursing board lacks the manpower to do process applications. The nursing board has only one full-time employee.

"We need manpower to do the work that needs to be done," Bertha Camacho, a member of the nursing board, has said. She said the board needs funding for at least two administrative assistants and one clerk to ensure efficient processing of applications.

Happy 40th Wedding Anniversary!

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For your hard work and sacrifices to support us in our moral and physical sustenance.

For your faith in God which gives us light and makes our family strongly united in times of sunny days and rainy weather..

For continually loving us and loving Mom so tenderly..

To you Mom & Dad we say "thank you" for all these and may the Good Lord reward both of you good health for your devotion to the family and for being a responsible steward ofthe tasks entrusted to you by God.

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Commerce seeks to beef up insurance staff

The Department of Commerce is hiring officials to oversee regulation of insurance companies in the Commonwealth.

Commerce Secretary Michael J. Ada, in a letter to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, said the department's Insurance Section is currently staffed with only one individual serving in an acting capacity. The Insurance Section licenses and regulates 58 companies and numerous general agents, subagents, brokers, and solicitors.

"The demands of the office have made it very difficult for one staff to keep up with the daily workload from fielding calls, reviewing and processing licenses, reviewing and processing insurance certification clearances, entertaining complaints, as well as monitoring licenses for compliance," Ada said.

He said the department needs an insurance administrator and an insurance licensing officer to help do the work.

"In order for the department to fulfill its mandate of regulating the insurance industry, [these positions are] critical to ensure that the CNMI admits and licenses legitimate and capable insurance firms in providing service to CNMI consumers," Ada said.

In addition, the Commerce Department is looking to hire a bank licensing specialist to assist the banking administrator in licensing and regulating the banking and financial industry. The Banking Section licenses and regulates banks, financial institutions, money service businesses, pawnbrokers, securities broker-dealers, and investment advisers. ***(Agnes E. Donato)***

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Susupe Beach Park undergoes revitalization

The landmark Susupe Beach Park, which has lost its luster due to rundown pavilions, unkempt grounds, and rampant graffiti, has been renovated, refurbished, and cleaned up, thanks to the efforts of Tan Holdings Corp.

In October and November this year, Tan Holdings management, through the leadership of Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan, took the initiative to revitalize this serene and intimate park. The team volunteered to paint all concrete areas, remove debris that had accumulated through the years, and work with the appointed contractor, Reliance Construction, in resurfacing and restoring all broken barbecue pits, concrete benches, and concrete tables.

Tan Holding managers set out with a force of about 80 people per cleanup, divided into five groups per day, and each group was assigned to water-blast, clean up and repaint the stage, pavilions, grounds, and bathrooms.

The addition of a new roof for the stage was one of the highlights of this restoration project. The volunteers also took the time to paint the wall and water tanks of the Saipan Community School that face the park.

Now, after 20 years, the community can once again enjoy the outdoor performances that defined the Susupe Beach Park.

The face of the newly renovated Susupe Beach Park will be presented to the public tomorrow, Nov. 22, at 2pm, with a performance by the ukulele students of the Saipan Community School. The top three winners of the recent Best Dance Crew of the CNMI contest will also be performing. Among the guests at tomorrow's event are officials of the Department of Lands and Natural Resources, Parks and Recreations, Saipan Mayor's Office, among others.

"We're very grateful to the volunteers from the Tan Holdings who made this happen. It's really a wonderful project that benefits the community," said DLNR Secretary Dr. Ignacio Dela Cruz.

In 1988, Susupe Beach Park was developed as Saipan's first public park with pavilions and stage. Since then, countless wedding receptions, family gatherings, special events, and performance memories have been created at the park. Over the years, natural disasters, erosion, and vandalism had severely damaged the pavilions, benches, and surrounding areas. Parks and Recreation, with their minimal resources, had been able to keep the park as safe and secure as possible. That's when Tan Holdings stepped in to help reclaim the park for the people of Saipan.

Susupe Beach Park's beach is about 800 feet long and up to about 40 feet wide. Vegetation is mainly ironwood trees. Susupe Regional Park is the most well developed local public recreation facility on Saipan. The park was built in 1988 after public demand for a park wherein entertainment and activities could be placed. Initial stage cost was $150,000 and the former owners of Grand Hotel paid 50 percent of the costs. It was the first park ever built on Saipan. During its heyday, reservations had to be made months in advance for use of the pavilions. ***(PR)***

BEFORE
The Susupe Beach Park's rundown stage before the renovation.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

AFTER
The stage, after the addition of a new roof.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BEFORE
The rundown toilet is covered with graffiti.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

AFTER
The newly painted toilet.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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The Secret Garden at PIC

More than 30 students from public and private schools are participating this weekend in the musical drama production of *The Secret Garden*.

The Broadway musical, written by Marsha Norman with music by Lucy Simon, is based on the classic children's story *The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett.

The Secret Garden will be staged today and tomorrow, Nov. 21-22, at 7pm, at the Charley's Cabaret of the Pacific Islands Club. The cost of admission is $7.50 for adults.

According to Jane Mack, the production is an ambitious venture for the talents of Saipan's students, who have been rehearsing for weeks.

Thespians of the Western Pacific Islands sponsors the production.

TWPI is proud that it fosters cooperation between students from different schools. This production has a cast from Marianas High School, Saipan Southern High School, Kagman High School, ChaCha OceanView Junior High School, Saipan American Education Foundation School, Saipan Community School, and Saipan International School.

"The production rehearsals were taking place at MHS, and due to the murder on campus there, had to be cancelled at least one night during production week," said Mack. "The students are greatly saddened by the death of the security guard, who was one of the team at MHS who helped support the production of *The Secret Garden* by making the rehearsals there possible and safe." ***(PR)***

4th Annual Artists' Holiday Sale set for next weekend

The 4th Annual Artists' Holiday Sale will be held Nov. 29, from 10am to 7pm, and on Nov. 30, from 10am to 5pm, at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe, Saipan.

The 4th Annual Artists' Holiday Sale still has a few available spaces for original, creative arts and craft items.

Table space will be available on a first-pay basis; upon payment, artists can select the space/s they would like. Costs is $25 for one table space and $40 for two spaces for the weekend. Furnish your own tables and display boards.

Artists can unload their vehicles in front of the Multi-Purpose Center and are then requested to park in the Courthouse parking lot so there will be parking space for customers.

Artists can set up from 8am to 10am.

No food or drinks are allowed inside the Multi-Purpose Center. Sealed food may be sold in the lobby area.

Outdoor space for lunch and food sales is available for $25 per group; groups must furnish their own table and tent (if needed). ***(PR)***

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The promotional prize draws will occur at 10am on Friday 21st November 2008, Friday 12th December 2008 and Wednesday 31st Dec 2008. The Grand Prize Draw will occur at 10am on Friday 9th January, 2009. Draws will be held at the Western Union location at Mita Travel Beach Road Garapan, Saipan, and are open to the public to attend.

This promotion is valid from November 10, 2008 to December 31, 2008. Terms and conditions apply.

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Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

November 21, 2000

Budget may get Senate approval
After nearly three months of scrutiny, the Senate is expected to approve the much-delayed fiscal budget in a scheduled session tomorrow with key changes to several appropriation items. Senators are also preparing for an anticipated bicameral meeting with House members as they expect rejection by the counterpart of their version of the FY 2001 budget. Sen. Edward U. Maratita, chair of the Fiscal Affairs Committee, said the upper has reached a consensus on the spending package following intense deliberation in the past few weeks.

Ex-DPS official: I'm not guilty
Former Department of Public Safety Deputy Commissioner Lino Tenorio yesterday pled not guilty to charges of oral copulation and rape before the Superior Court. Mr. Tenorio has been released in the custody of his mother on a $25,000 unsecured bond. The former DPS official was accused of raping his 27-year-old stepdaughter in their Dandan residence on Nov. 8, 2000. According to a police report, the victim was sleeping when she suddenly woke up and felt Mr. Tenorio on top of her, kissing her body and forcing himself to her.

November 21, 2001

Youthful offenses in all-time low
The number of juvenile delinquency cases reported to the Division of Youth Services dropped to an all-time low. According to the monthly statistical report obtained from the DYS, the 13 cases of juvenile delinquency recorded in October 2001 marked the first time such a significant fall was posted in eight years. Last month's 13 cases of youthful offenses include truancy, assault and battery, possession of illegal substance, theft, and assault with a dangerous weapon.

Transition panel: Stay OPM conversion to civil service
The transition committee of the incoming Babauta administration has asked the Office of Personnel Management to temporarily put off the conversion of employees at the Office of the Governor to civil service status to give the new administration the chance to review the listings of those who will be converted. According to committee chairman Rep. Thomas B. Pangelinan, he made the verbal request to acting personnel chief Norbert Sablan last week but there has been no response yet whether the OPM has agreed to the request.

November 21, 2002

MPLA's commissioner sacked
The Marianas Public Lands Authority Board of Directors decided yesterday to "let go" of MPLA commissioner Bertha Deleon Guerrero. The board handed down the decision Wednesday, the day Deleon Guerrero was supposed to resume work from an overseas trip. Deleon Guerrero was on leave from Nov. 14 to Nov. 19. In a Nov. 20 memorandum signed by acting MPLA board chair Manuel P. Villagomez of Tinian, the board designated deputy commissioner Henry S. Hofschneider as acting commissioner "effective immediately."

GHLI patients freed from cash deposit
With Group Health and Life Insurance paying off $1 million of its outstanding medical claims, two hospitals in Hawaii have lifted the cash requirement they were imposing on Group Health patients. Hawaii Pacific Medical Referrals operations manager Regina Torres said that both Straub Clinic and Hospital and the Kapiolani Medical Center for Women and Children are no longer requiring Group Health patients to put up a cash deposit when they check in at these hospitals.

November 21, 2003

Restore normalcy in Senate'
Senate President Paul A. Manglona assured yesterday that he is sincere in his bid to restore normalcy and peace in the upper house, following the Superior Court's decision Wednesday to dismiss the Senate leadership struggle lawsuit. The opposing Senate camps have differing interpretations of the court decision, which Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo made pursuant to judicial abstention.

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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The Associated Press
Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

At war on the high seas

When pirates operating off the coast of Somalia started increasing their attacks on merchant vessels earlier this year, world leaders shrugged. When marauders captured a Ukrainian ship full of tanks and small arms in September, they sat up and took notice. On Saturday, modern-day buccaneers swooped down on what may be the largest ship ever captured by pirates, a supertanker carrying so much oil that news of its seizure caused a temporary uptick in world crude prices. Is it time to declare a war on piracy?

The capture of the Saudi-owned *Sirius Star* hundreds of miles off the coast of Kenya in the Indian Ocean is the maritime equivalent of a bull elephant being taken down by a hyena. The ship is the size of an aircraft carrier, with sides rising 33 feet from the water line, and is capable of carrying about 2 million barrels of oil. Though no details have emerged on how the pirates carried out the attack, which was announced Monday by the U.S. Navy, experts say the raiders probably used grappling hooks or ladders to scramble over the side, then took the tanker's unarmed crew hostage. Other ships have thwarted such attacks using fire hoses, but just as elephants are seldom on the lookout for hyenas, the *Sirius Star*'s crew may have been caught napping.

Oil giant Saudi Aramco will probably have to hand over millions of dollars to ransom its ship and crew, but that's not the most vexing thing about the attack. It comes even as international warships and private security contractors have been flocking to the Somali coast in response to the rise in piracy, to little avail. Pirates have responded to the increased security in their usual hunting grounds in the Gulf of Aden by shifting farther southeast into the vast Indian Ocean, which is all but impossible to patrol.

What's more, although NATO warships, the U.S. 5th Fleet and ships from Russia and India have been successful in overtaking pirate vessels, they're seldom sure what to do with them. No country has yet been willing to try or imprison the captured pirates, who are often simply returned to their boats after their weapons are seized. That's not exactly a powerful deterrent.

The real problem, naval commanders agree, is that piracy is the most lucrative thing going in Somalia, a war-torn failed state that has been without a functioning government (or much of an economy) since 1991. While stepped-up sea patrols can help, they say, what's needed is more intervention on shore. History suggests they're right; the notorious 17th century Tortuga buccaneers ceased their raids when career opportunities arose in logging and other Caribbean industries. There aren't any easy solutions for Somalia's many problems, but now that its woes are threatening world oil supplies, it seems a good time to start trying some hard ones.

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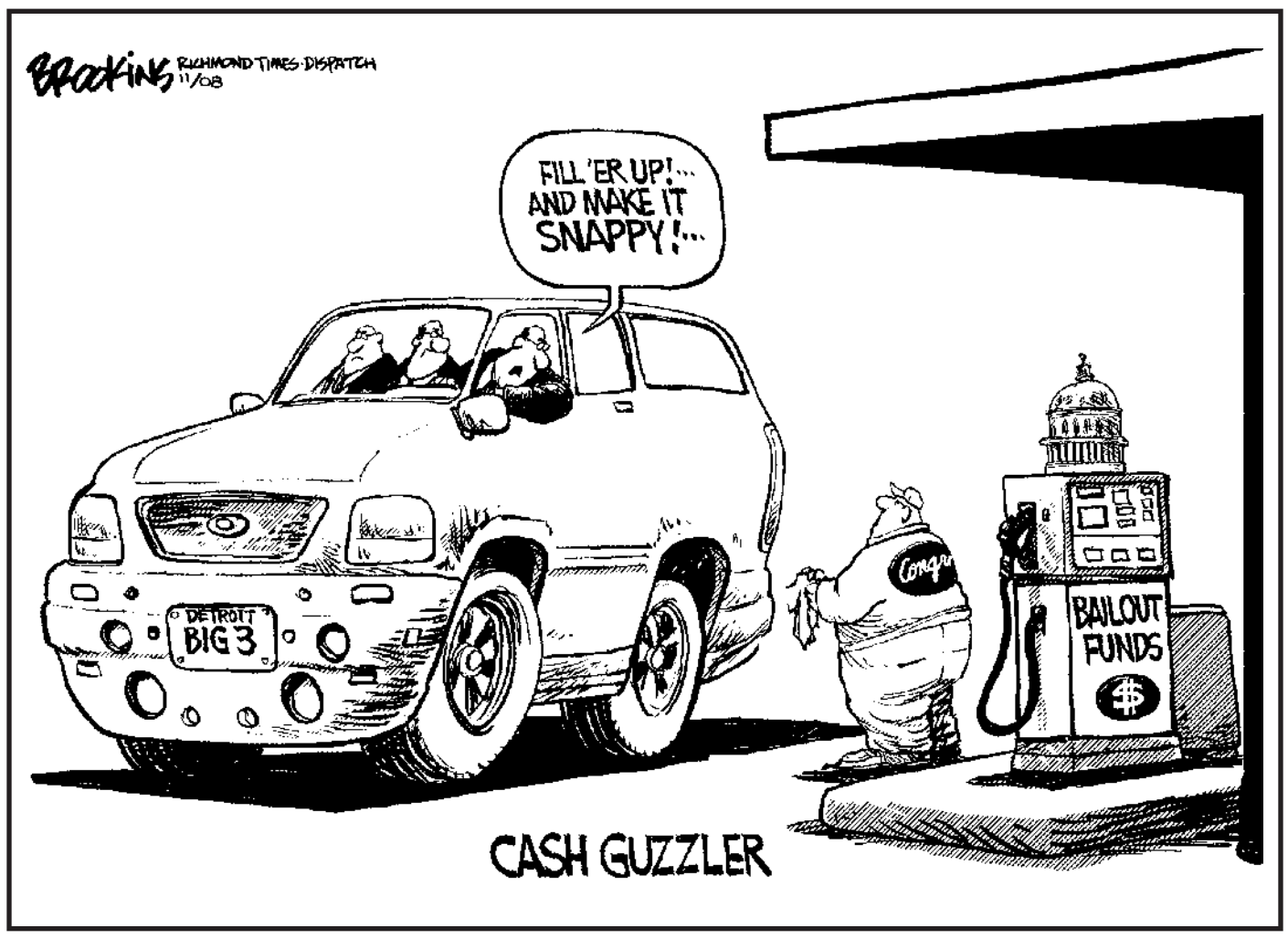


Survivor mentality at *Saipan Tribune*

By LYNN A. KNIGHT
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Lynn Knight is the publisher of the Saipan Tribune.

Since August 2002, the team at he *Saipan Tribune* has been proud to say that we are still the first and only media organization in the Northern Marianas that provides local news to our community seven days a week. This commitment has meant a lot more than just bragging rights. It has meant that for the past six years, there have always been members of the *Tribune* team working to produce a newspaper and keep the community informed and entertained.

Every day for approximately 2,310 days now, there have been hard-working reporters writing stories, advertising staff serving customers, an editor closing the pages, production artists designing layouts, pressmen running the presses, and circulation staff out and about very early every morning to bring you the news.

So as I sat down to write this column, I was thinking that the best approach was to be as straightforward as possible and say that in today's economic storm, even the strongest of businesses—and yes, even a healthy company like the *Saipan Tribune*—are impacted by the shrinking of the pie.

There's no mistaking the fact that this year has not been business as usual and next year is not expected to be any better. Therefore, every business, large and small, every government entity, and even every family should take a look at efficiency and what it will take to survive the bottoming out of the economy.

There's no mistaking the fact that this year has not been business as usual and next year is not expected to be any better. Therefore, every business, large and small, every government entity, and even every family should take a look at efficiency and what it will take to survive the bottoming out of the economy.

Survival at an acceptable level means different things to different people, but what this means for *Saipan Tribune* is this: as one of our own cost-cutting measures, effective November 30, we will temporarily suspend the Sunday newspaper until economic conditions in the CNMI improve. We sincerely hope this will be soon, but regardless of how long it takes, the *Saipan Tribune* intends to be a survivor.

Survival to us means we are committed to paying our employees and our vendors on time. We are committed to employee care: to providing a smoke-free workplace and healthy activities for our employees. We will stay active in the community and remain committed to being good citizens.

It was extremely timely that we received a copy of the latest economic assessment of the CNMI economy in the past week. The study, titled *Economic Impact of Federal Laws on the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands*, may immediately make some people think that this is a political document. The truth is it is a meticulously researched report by two capable and very accomplished economists. The authors, Malcolm McPhee and Dick Conway, are the same people who wrote the highly acclaimed and heavily used 1999 economic study released by Northern Marianas College.

Whether or not you agree with one of the report's conclusions that new federal laws have already had and will continue to have a profoundly negative impact on the local economy, this 96-page report should be a must-read for everyone in business and policy-making roles in the CNMI. It is an eye-opening account of the rise and fall of the CNMI economy, the meaning of the latest economic indicators, and what we may expect in the coming years.

This report should be read by students and residents who want to understand more about the difficulties we are having today and why. The report notes that we're in for a rough ride, an economy that will not hit bottom until 2010.

As recently noted by a good friend and colleague, President Jim Arenovski of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, the reduction in population in the CNMI is perhaps the most alarming thing that businesses should be concerned with today. The outmigration of people in response to deteriorating economic conditions is aggravating the situation even further. It means very simply: there is less business to go around and there's no denying this fact.

Although we will miss our Sunday comics and other features, we feel that the temporary reduction in the newspaper schedule from seven days to six only makes sense at this time. You have our assurance that if there's a breaking story over the weekend that is of importance to the community, *Tribune* staff will continue to be there and you can read about it in our popular online edition at www.saipantribune.com.

On behalf of *Saipan Tribune*, thank you to all of our readers, vendors and advertisers. You have our commitment to be a survivor and continue to serve you as we weather this economic storm together.

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

The Korean juggernaut

By ED STEPHENS

Ed is a pilot, economist, and writer. He holds a degree in economics from UCLA and is a former U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday. Visit Ed at TropicalEd.com and SaipanBlog.com.

South Korea's rising investment tide in the CNMI is exciting. What's near is also far, and Saipan is just one small element in Korea's global juggernaut. I love seeing it, given that South Korea has long been my favorite economy (bet you didn't know that people can have favorite economies. Why not? People have favorite football teams. So, I have favorite economies.)

You can't go to Seoul and come away anything but extremely impressed. Back when I could indulge such whims, I used to hop aboard Asiana for weekend jaunts from Saipan to Seoul, just to enjoy that city. Over the years I've filed a number of *Saipan Tribune* columns from Korea.

Meanwhile, a pal of mine, who noticed that Korean investments are flowing all over Asia and even Africa, recently said, "The Koreans are taking over the world."

My response? "We should be so lucky."

My first economics professor was Korean. I encountered him in an introduction to macroeconomics course. I was a mathematics major at the time, but economics not only appealed to my love of math, but also to my interest in business, writing, and my wry appreciation of the absurd. I still remember that professor's wit and erudition.

Adam Smith has been a known quantity for over 200 years, but much of the world still prefers to steer itself into poverty, 14th-century style. Like I say, a wry sense of the absurd really fits in this field. But you don't need it in South Korea. It's amazing that South Korea, having been steamrollered by so many forces in recent history, managed to grasp free market economics the minute it saw some daylight. Clinging to a baron peninsula in a dangerous geopolitical neighborhood, somehow, against great odds, the South Koreans have not only endured, but, in many ways, are prevailing.

When I actually caught my first glimpse of Korea I was on my way to Saipan on a one-way ticket. The tropical rainbow express, on KAL: LA to Seoul to Saipan. When I first spied Seoul, it looked, from the air, like a cheerless expanse of big concrete dominoes. My first impression was sure wrong. Seoul is one great place.

Back in those days, I quickly noticed that for all its charm, Saipan had a lot of big talkers, grandiose schemes, and professional pipe dreamers, funded, for whatever reason, by the local government. But when it came to getting any actual work done, it was often the quiet competence of the Korean community at work.

I've been in a few venues where the high achievements of Koreans have triggered the absolute worst in envy from the handout crowd. Worldwide, it will be interesting to see if the investments that the Koreans are making in some undeveloped places are greeted with long term goodwill, or with eventual looting and expropriation.

Meanwhile, on Saipan, the Koreans are rushing in where the Japanese fear to tread. Somebody, then, has miscalculated.

South Korea is one of the few, very few, economies I know of that is actually constrained by its lack of basic natural resources. Japan, of course, would be another. What an odd quirk of fate that such industrious people should be allocated such resource-poor venues. Meanwhile, I've worked in so many places richly endowed with gold, silver, lush land, and other blessings, that are determined to live in poverty. Economics really is the hidden plot line behind the human drama. Some plots are heroic. Most are farce and slapstick. What a fun world it is.

Although Korea's per capita-production is less than half of U.S. levels, I won't be surprised at all if, in a generation or two, South Korea surpasses the U.S. in that regard.

Anyone in the Commonwealth who wants to learn how to operate a business can learn a lot from the Koreans. They've been some of the best teachers I've ever had, starting in my college days, and continuing all the way up to the present.

Letters to the Editor

Attitude of gratitude from an amazing journey

Manginefli'e' hu Sudidånon Sankattan Na Islan Marianas:

Guåho si John Oliver Delos Reyes Gonzales, 1 Bolis, i lahen miyo, i che'lon miyo.

Ni ngai'an bai hu maleffa na påtgon popbli yo'ya hu tungo'håfa mina'så'pet ya hu sienti kabålis i pinadesi yan chinaflek miyo.

Kinsi (15) åños esta desdi ki hu tutuhon muna'oppan gi "TV" na prisisu ta dekka', ta ina, yan ta diskuti i asunto yan i prupbleman i tano'ta siha.

Bihu hu si difunto Tomas ***POP*** *Palacios Sablan yan Bihå hu si difunta Lucian* ***BOLIS*** *Pangelinan Delos Reyes.*

Mañainahu si difunta Maria Bolis Pangelinan Delos Reyes yan Alfredo Gonzales.

Påtgon popbli yo'gi Chalan Kanoa Distritu 3 ya ma pogsai biha yo'. Mafanå'gue yo'na ta onra si Yu'us, tana'tatkilo'i rispetu, ta fan honesto, yan ta fanafamåolek.

Hu tungo'minasså'pet yan chinatsagan pinepbli. Hu ekkungok i mañainahu ya hu na'e animu umeskuela kosa ki siña yo'mås hu ayuda i mañe'luhu yan mañainahu kumu guåho mås åmko'na patgon.

Enkuenta i asaguåhu, i famagu'on måmi, i mañainan måmi, hu nånå'e hamyo tåddung na agradesimento yan ayu'os pot i maggim korason yan fino'miyo nu guåho yan i botun miyo todo.

Ti anåkko'i dos åños na tiempo ya siempre man hita ta'lo. Hu sen hongge na ta miresi mås måolek, disenti, gåsgas, honesto, kapås, yan taimancha na reprisentasion giya Amerika para mo'na.

Si Yu'us u bendisi hamyo yan hita todo. Biba Ginasgas! Biba Marianas!

Dear people of our Commonwealth:

It has been an amazing journey indeed. Thank you for the opportunity to discuss the issues that matter to you in your homes, in our villages, and in our community. Thank you for the privilege and honor to listen to and speak with you. You have made me a better, informed person and you are all the reason why I am blessed to be a fellow citizen of this great island community we call home, God's country, our beloved Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

You all expressed your concerns, while I listened. You all needed someone to listen, while I became more patient. We all learned and became strong in the process. It has been an amazing journey indeed.

Our islands and our people are at a critical juncture in our lives and relationship with our motherland, the US of A. We must be honest with ourselves and learn from the lessons of the past. We must be responsible so we can deliver the promises of our Covenant for the benefit of all who call the CNMI home, not just for the few politically connected with politics as usual.

This historic Delegate election was about who we can trust with the integrity, character, and competence to protect and defend the interests of all our people pursuant to our Covenant. Our Delegate must restore lasting trust and respect in our enduring relationship with the United States. But, our Delegate must be one with impeccable character, integrity, and honesty.

Our failed politics as usual practices of the past and the few politically connected families who have enriched themselves while the rest of us continue to suffer must stop now. The incompetence, greed, manipulative, and selfish practices and special interests of the few must no longer be tolerated. Enough is enough.

I continue to believe that, now more than ever, we need young and dynamic leadership with integrity and long term vision forward. We need leaders who can best articulate our issues and needs clearly in our Legislature and in Congress based on trust, respect, and good faith representation for our most vulnerable members of our community.

We campaigned for NEW ERA, a NEW VISION, and a NEW DIRECTION of H.O.P.E.—**H**ope, **O**pportunity, and **P**rogress for **E**veryone!

But, we will not look back and regret where we were for the promise of tomorrow is stronger than the despair of today. Your enduring words of encouragement and support for H.O.P.E. are more the reason we must stand up to the challenge that an uncertain future holds. With God's divine intervention, we will CONTINUE to campaign for a new movement with enduring H.O.P.E. for us and for those who truly need help.

On behalf of my wife, Charlene, our three sons, our parents, and our families, I take this opportunity to thank all of you for the privilege and honor to have listened to you and for opening your hearts to us. Thank you to all who have helped make me a better person as a result. It has been an amazing journey indeed!

I especially want to thank my Committee to Elect for their valued trust and guidance—Chairman Judge Ed Manibusan, Vice Chair Lumi R. Bermudes, Treasurer Zenie P. Mafnas, Secretary Carol P. Hosono, Strategy Chairman Atty. Robert T. Torres, Logistics Chairman Willie Brundidge, Jack Bwiibw Sablan, Aunty Marcy C. Santos, Primo Ben P. yan Prima Charlene S. Cruz, Uncle Ton Cruz and Kusina Crew, Chef Uncle Kin 'Doi' Bolis, Bolis Family, My Palacios and Sablan Families from Pop Tomas, Polling Tent Volunteers, Barrie M. Toves and Frank M. Norita and supporters in ROP, Jose P. Cruz and Janet King and our supporters in TIQ, and to the thousands of supporters who helped voted for me and contributed financially and in-kind to our movement for H.O.P.E. God bless you!

The great days of hope and opportunity for our people and our Commonwealth are ahead of us. Hope is on the horizon. God bless our Commonwealth. In God we trust !!!

Si yu'us ma'åse', ghilisoow, salamat, soulang, arigato, thank you !

John Oliver Delos Reyes Gonzales
2008 Candidate for Delegate to the US Congress

Creation of PUC

To Kyle Calabrese, Vice Chair
Public Utilities Commission

We have a couple of issues with the setting of power rates**.** First, why does PUC need an off-island consultant, influencing decisions of what is in the best interest for the consumers of the CNMI? Are you saying the current PUC board is incompetent or have no idea what its members are doing?

Secondly, why does PUC need an executive director? Who is paying for all these extra expenses, Mr. Calabrese? The price for a barrel of fuel continues to decline and we believe a rate between .17 and .20 cents per kilowatt at the most can be achieved and stabilized. The real issue with the exorbitant utility rates is recovery, but again recovery from what? Past incompetence, mismanagement, extortion, politics and self-interest at CUC? The PUC board needs to concentrate on preventing, if not eliminating, all those losses incurred by CUC and stop passing the burden of these mistakes to the already oppressed and depressed consumers.

Third, all of you were nominated and appointed for a reason, and that reason is simple: to fix CUC's rate structure fairly, equally, justly and truthfully. The assumption by our Legislature that all of you have a general understanding and thorough knowledge of how CUC operates is why a board now exists.

It's is unfortunate that since the inception of this board, the concentration has been on adding expenditures and costs, at a time when our government is broke, including the hiring of an outside consultant. It is now highly questionable whether this board can actually handle the job.

Mr. Calabrese, if this is how this board functions on a daily basis, then we believe all of you should resign effective immediately before a detrimental and unjust decision is made affecting consumers.

Gregorio Cruz Jr.
Taotao Tano CNMI Inc.

Devil child

When deciding on the PEW/Bush legacy monument, some folks say we should be careful not to throw the baby out with the bathwater. They want us to confuse the ham-handed way Pew shoved the Bush message down our throats with what they claim is a good opportunity to have the U.S. control our marine assets for all time. The problem is they are dead wrong about it being a good thing for the CNMI. In fact, the baby they want us to save is Rosemary's Baby.

There is nothing worth saving about either the message or the messenger. The message is that the feds view their self-interest as superior to ours. The message says they can just take what they want. That message is getting old. That message is simply not in the spirit of the Covenant. That message is wrong. As for the self-serving messenger that calls itself Pew, I suggest they go find someone else to harass. Go find a place with citizens that will roll over and bark when you ask. We are not that place or those people.

We want to conserve our precious islands and the waters that surround them. In fact, we do a far better job of it than the seriously polluted USA does. What we don't want are phony front men coming here with their we-are-better-than-you-attitude and a hidden agenda. If they want to bow down to a lame duck President to calm their oil-soaked conscience, that is fine. We just want them to go elsewhere and stick it to somebody else willing. Thanks but no thanks. Now go away and please take your devil baby with you.

Rep. Stanley T. McGinnis Torres
Capital Hill, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼79°	▲87° ▼79°	▲87° ▼79°	▲87° ▼79°	▲87° ▼79°

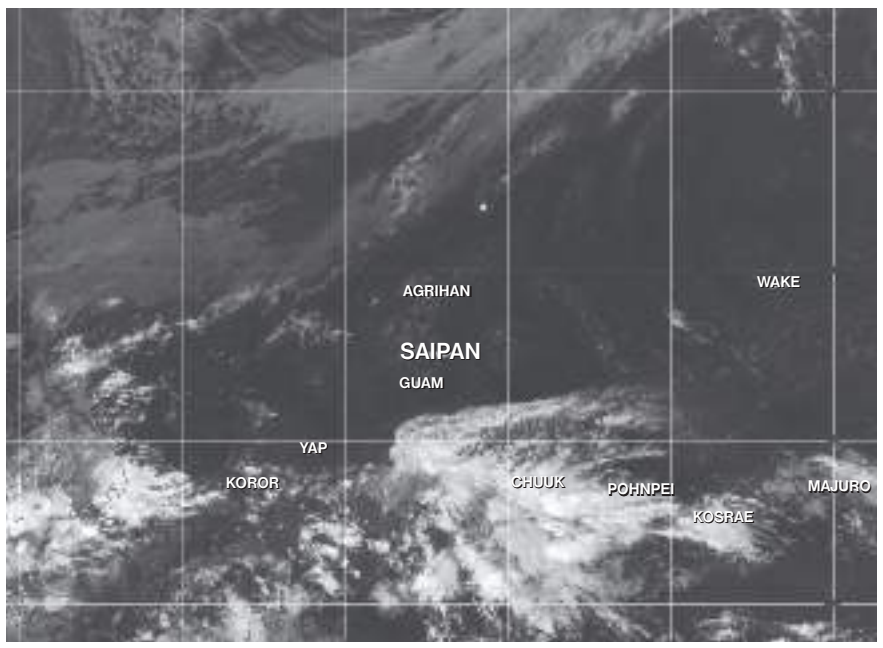
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲84	▼77
Palau	Showers	▲86	▼78
Yap	Showers	▲86	▼76
Chuuk	Showers	▲88	▼78
Pohnpei	Showers	▲87	▼72
Kosrae	Showers	▲89	▼79
Majuro	Showers	▲85	▼75

Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲70	▼58
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲52	▼27
Hong Kong	Cloudy	▲79	▼70
Honolulu	Rain	▲80	▼70
London	Cloudy	▲43	▼34
Los Angeles	Cloudy	▲74	▼54
Manila	Showers	▲87	▼77
Melbourne	Showers	▲62	▼45
Miami	Partly Sunny	▲75	▼59
New York	Flurries	▲38	▼27
Osaka	Showers	▲54	▼40
Paris	Showers	▲55	▼30
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲55	▼35
Rome	Showers	▲60	▼47
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	▲51	▼40
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲63	▼48
Seoul	Sunny	▲42	▼24
Tokyo	Cloudy	▲59	▼43
Washington, DC	Flurries	▲40	▼27

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:30PM, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2008
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A shear line extends southwestward from 25N147E to beyond 130E at 17N. Extensive cloud-cover and scattered showers extend up to 200 miles northwest of the shear line. Convergence near and to the east of a surface trough extending northward from EQ144E to 10N145E is causing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over Chuuk, south of Pohnpei and over Kosrae between the equator and 10N from 143E to 160E and between 3N and 7N from 160E to 165E. Another surface trough extending northward from 5N167E to 11N171E is triggering scattered showers over Kwajalein and Majuro within 100 miles of a line extending southeastward from 9N167E to 7N178E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
1:23AM Today	High Tide:	1.4 Feet
8:16AM Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
3:21PM Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
9:55PM Today	Low Tide:	0.7 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:22AM	5:44 PM
Saturday	6:22AM	5:44 PM
Sunday	6:23AM	5:44 PM
Monday	6:23AM	5:44 PM
Tuesday	6:24AM	5:44 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	12:44AM	1:17PM
Saturday	1:35AM	1:54PM
Sunday	2:25AM	2:30PM
Monday	3:14AM	3:07PM
Tuesday	4:04AM	3:46PM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 19, 2008

DEPARTURES

Saipan-Rota

CO9597	11:50am	12:25pm	1,7

Saipan-Guam

CO9317	5:00am	5:50am	Daily
CO9313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
CO9597	11:50am	1:20pm	1,7 via Rota
CO9601	12:30pm	1:20pm	2,3,4,5,6
CO9603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
CO9605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

Saipan-Narita

NW 099	5:00am	7:40am	Daily
NW 078	8:25am	1:30pm	2,3,4,5,6,7
NW 075	4:55pm	7:30pm	Daily

Saipan-Osaka

NW 083	4:30pm	7:20pm	Daily

Saipan-Nagoya

NW 078	8:25am	11:05am	Daily

Saipan-Incheon

OZ 604	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ 604	2:40am	6:30am	2,3,4,5,6,7
OZ 606	3:20pm	7:00pm	Daily

Saipan-Busan

OZ 608	3:50am	7:20am	1,4,5,7

Saipan-Shanghai

FM 844	2:50am	5:40am	2,6

Rota-Guam

CO 9597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1,7

Guam-Manila

CO 893	5:50pm	9:10pm	3,5 via Koror
CO 933	8:00pm	9:40pm	Daily
PR 111	6:00am	7:50am	1,2,4,6,7

ARRIVALS

Rota-Saipan

CO 9598	3:25am	4:00am	5,6

Guam-Saipan

CO 9316	2:30am	3:20am	1,2,3,4,7
CO9598	2:30am	4:00am	5,6 via Rota
CO9596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
CO9600	10:20am	11:10am	Daily
CO9602	2:00pm	2:50pm	Daily
CO9604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
CO9606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

Narita-Saipan

NW 076	10:15am	2:40pm	Daily
NW 077	6:25pm	1:25am+1	2,3,4,5,6,7
NW 100	8:45pm	1:15am+1	Daily

Osaka-Saipan

NW 084	10:40am	3:10pm	Daily

Nagoya-Saipan

NW 077	9:00pm	1:25am+1	Daily

Incheon-Saipan

OZ 605	9:00am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ 603	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ 603	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1,2,3,4,5,6

Busan-Saipan

OZ 607	9:30pm	2:40am+1	3,4,6,7

Shanghai-Saipan

FM 843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1,5

Guam-Rota

CO 9598	2:30am	3:00am	5,6

Manila-Guam

CO 892	10:10pm	5:30am+1	3,5 via Koror
CO 934	11:10pm	4:40am+1	Daily
PR 110	10:10pm	4:00am+1	1,3,5,6,7

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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Letter to the Editor

Disenfranchised people and their bucket list

I use to think we mainland Americans were the only disenfranchised people when it comes to representation in the Legislature as they have *never* enacted a law on Capital Hill since the conception of the CNMI to help level the playing field for *all* U. S. citizens in the CNMI. Now they are doing it to their *own* people by not even giving them the opportunity to vote on a law that will directly affect the economy and private landowners whose right to free enterprise is clearly being violated and still in conflict with our federal Constitution. I couldn't believe it when I heard what they had done.

You would think that private landowners would be crying bloody murder because they should actually have the right to do whatever they want to with their private land except sell it to a foreigner or foreign government. If the indigenous people don't want to sell their land to anyone other than a local that's their right but to deny them the right to sell land to fellow U. S. citizens is *wrong*. Private landowners should developing their land, putting up their own subdivision signs on these big lots, as opposed to trying to lease land that the average person and investor will *not* lease regardless of the years. The government has disenfranchised its own people from the free enterprise system and won't even give them a voice and continues to promote the disenfranchisement of fellow U. S. citizens from the mainland.

The people who voted against the extension can't totally understand the magnitude of the politics they are promoting, which is a future conflict with the federal government over landownership. It would have been great and even ingenious if they voted against the bill because they were working on something better than the temporary band-aid solution of extending leases but people know they weren't working on such a plan.

The Obama administration has already promised an "era of reforms" and given our poor social, economic and political situation we also need to be thinking about an era of reforms and get rid of the band-aids and fix the problem permanently. The Obama administration and the Democrats in Congress are not going to sit still for U. S. citizens being disenfranchised and their constitutional rights being violated in the CNMI. The old school of partisan politics will clearly come to an end in Washington on Jan. 20th and the old school politics of partisan indigenous status quo is also at the end of its road. Some just don't see the end coming because reform means to change and that is something our Legislature has proven *they can't do*. President Obama will be about change so where does that leave some of our politicians and the CNMI? I can easily see and predict a major question in the next election for every candidate to office will be "Are you for or against reforming the Land Alienation Act?" I'm sure those against it will get a rude awakening, especially if majority of people are already awake and aware of the importance of rectifying this conflict with federal law.

I'm not going to mention the names of the people that voted against the extension of the land leases because they are already public knowledge and I have lived here long enough to know it won't matter anyway because they won't be held accountable. The sad part for me is that I truly like and admire some of them—they just made the wrong choice. But I hope this letter will help them rectify their mistake because Article XII is the real hurdle we must leap over.

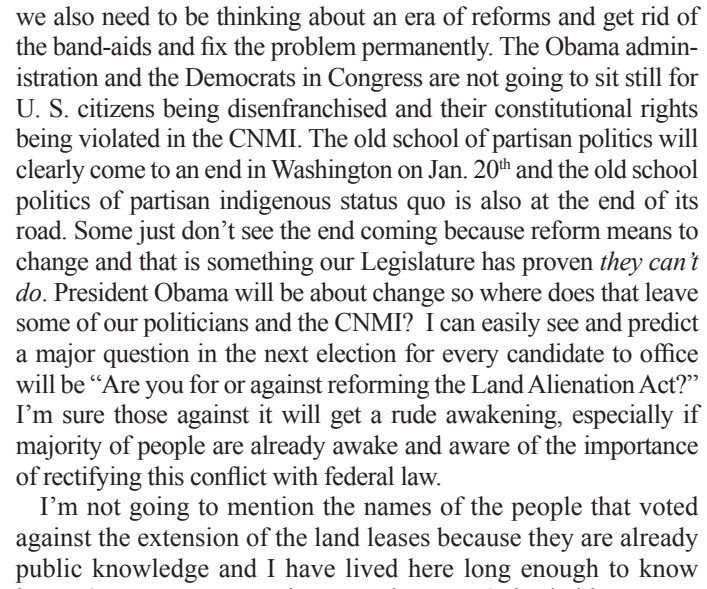
The leasing of land hasn't proven to be totally successfully or a perpetual solution over the past 30 years and it seems it will take the Feds again before our Legislature as a whole gets it. Given the present attitude of our leaders—and if it doesn't change—I can easily predict and promise, like I have done with so many other issues, that "the CNMI will experience another wave of federalization on land" if there isn't any equality created in land ownership by the 2011 election. The records of the Covenant negotiation will certify the "warnings given to the CNMI by the federal government to rectify our constitutional conflict with the federal Constitution"—so you don't have to take my word. Didn't we learn anything from refusing to raise wages and refusing to limit the importation of alien workers?

Our record at this point in our economic downturn and the fight with the federal government is "no hits" (nothing done or accomplished), "no runs" (no one is leading the way to prosperity and no working relationship with federal officials) and "no one on base" (nothing positive going for us in Washington or economically). Since they love baseball so much on the Hill and continue to disenfranchise the other kids who don't play baseball I thought this example might just get their attention. Change is coming and our Legislature had better get a new attitude or suffer the consequences because the people are tired of your disrespectful ways and paying for your mistakes!

I want to extend a sincere appreciation to Rep. Tina Sablan and the others who voted in the affirmative. As for the Bucket List, I would advise every voting citizen to start creating their own Bucket List like I do and a certain judge I know. Every time a representative in government does something you like or dislike just put it on a note and put it in an old coffee container or write it on a note pad until it's time for you to vote. I guarantee it will help you eliminate some of those who might have ordinarily gotten your vote because they are depending on our memories to become distorted with the many other issues to get re-elected. So start your own Bucket List and we will have a better government after the next election.

I can guarantee the smarter we are as voters the better our government will be so keep a record and start holding the voice that represents you on Capital Hill *accountable*! To those who do write opinion letters in the news, please support the Bucket List because once they know we are truly watching *and* keeping records, they will change or we will surely get rid of them.

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman, Saipan



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Organizers ready for Christmas events at Paseo

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

It's all systems go for the annual Christmas activities at the Paseo de Marianas in Garapan.

These will include the posting of Christmas card drawings by students from Rota and Tinian on Dec. 1; the Christmas tree decoration for competing schools on Dec. 3; and the lighting up of a giant Christmas tree on Dec. 4, among others.

Sonia Siwa of PDM Promoters Inc. said the programs are now being readied for these activities.

PDM is a non-profit corporation that aims to promote the Paseo de Marianas and the Garapan vicinity as a family-oriented place—safe and clean for tourist and the local community.

Siwa said the latest school to join the Christmas tree decoration contest was Ladera International School. This brings the total number of participants to 13.

Earlier, 12 elementary schools confirmed their participation, including last year's first place Saipan Community School, Dandan Elementary School (2nd), Oleai, San Antonio, Garapan, Grace Christian Academy, Tanapag, Kagman, William S. Reyes, San Vicente, Joshua Generation International Academy and G.T. Camacho.

The *man'amko* will be making their present felt for the first time with a special participation in the Christmas Tree decoration contest

The annual activity started three years ago.

As in the past, the contestants will use recycled materials to decorate their entries and will have the chance to win $3,000 for the first prize and consolation prizes of $500, sponsored by the Tax Education Credit Program.

The awarding ceremony will be held on Dec. 18.

Siwa said the event will be in coordination with the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs and other government agencies and schools and private groups.

RNV Construction will donate a giant Christmas tree in the middle of Paseo to be erected there from Dec. 3 to Dec. 25.

For the first time, tourists will be part of the event. A red ribbon would be provided to each tourist, who will make a wish and tie it to the Christmas tree, starting Dec. 4 to Jan. 6.

Holiday greeting banners would be strung along the light post of Paseo and Garapan district from Dec. 1 to Jan. 6.

Building owners along the Paseo have volunteered to put up Christmas lights in front of their establishments.

44 slots available for elderly who want to join workforce

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Some 44 senior citizens on Saipan will have the opportunity to join the workforce in connection with the title fight program of the Older Americans Act.

Deputy Secretary Melvin O. Faisal of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs said this program aims to enhance and promote self-sufficiency among elderly individuals.

With the business community realizing that older citizens could still be reliable members of the workforce, Faisal said this would give the *man'amko* a chance to prove that they can adapt to the changing needs of businesses.

Faisal said a total of 44 recipients—23 from Saipan, 10 on Tinian, and 11 on Rota—would be able to participate in the program.

"We are currently working with business establishments and government agencies for them to accommodate the senior citizens who are qualified," Faisal said.

It was U.S. Sen. Barbara A. Mikulski (D-Md.), a senior member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, that led the effort to pass the 2009 fiscal year Labor, Health and Human Services and Education spending bill.

The OAA is essential for the delivery of social support, nutritional and caregiving services for America's seniors, including the information and referral services that are the backbone of OAA programs, senior nutrition programs, and elder abuse programs. This year's spending bill provides a total $1.48 billion for OAA initiatives, including, $571.9 million for the Senior Community Service Employment Program, $350 million.

This program helps seniors gain employment in community service settings such as Meals on Wheels programs, senior centers and public libraries.

There are over 300 senior citizens on CNMI: 143 are active and are receiving the so-called congregate meal, which means they are able to get their supplies at the Office On Aging regularly.

There are also a total of 194 in the homebound category, which means the recipients are pre-diagnosed and could not personally visit the center.

Meanwhile, the Rotary Club of Saipan will sponsor a luncheon for the senior citizens on Monday Nov. 25 (not Saipan Grand Hotel as earlier reported). The Rotarians will be the second group to treat the *man'amko* to a special lunch for this year's Thanksgiving Day.

Last Wednesday, Fiesta Resort and Spa treated them to lunch and songs and dances at the center.

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University of Loyola sues three for allegedly defaulting on loan

By FERDIE DELA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

University of Loyola at CNMI Inc. has sued three persons over alleged non-payment of a loan that was used to pay for medical treatment.

University of Loyola sued Sammy Sung Yun Lee, Eleanor A. Loste, and Augustus Loste for breach of contract, fraud, misrepresentation and deceit.

The plaintiff, through counsel Mark A. Scoggins, asked the Superior Court to order the defendants to jointly pay the outstanding balance of $18,000.

The plaintiff also asked the court to order Lee to pay the remaining balance of $1,390.

University of Loyola demanded damages, attorney's fees, and court costs.

Saipan Tribune tried to obtain a statement from the defendants, but the Lostes declined to comment.

Scoggins stated in the complaint that in December 2007, Lee received a personal loan from Loyola in the amount of $20,000 in order to pay for the medical treatment of his daughter.

Scoggins said Mr. and Ms. Loste were informed of the assignment of the lease payments in December 2007 and that, as lessee of the property, have an obligation to pay Loyola $18,000.

The lawyer said that on Jan. 31, 2008, Mr. Lee and Dr. Johnny Fong of Loyola executed an assignment of lease payments in which Mr. Lee formally assigned to Loyola the lease payments due under the assignment of lease.

He said Mr. and Ms. Loste were informed of the formal assignment of lease payments by early February 2008, but never paid Loyola any of the rental payments as required by the assignment.

Scoggins said that, despite promises to repay the entire loan balance, Mr. Lee made only three payments of $200 each to Loyola in the first part of 2008, and one recent token payment to Loyola in the amount of $10. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Draft regs governing Rota casino now out

Commissioners of the Rota Casino Gaming Commission announced yesterday the completion of the first draft RCGC Rules and Regulations to strengthen and clarify the Rota Casino Act of 2007.

The draft rules focus on improving the economic development of Rota through a casino industry, according to the commission, headed by its chairman, Diego M. Songao.

The RCGC is the regulator of the Rota casino industry, governing how the industry will evolve on the island. It was mandated by the Rota Casino Act of 2007 to create the rules and regulations of the island's casino industry.

The commission will publish the rules and regulations in the Commonwealth Register to give the public the opportunity to comment.

In addition, the first draft of the rules and regulations was earlier distributed to interested parties, potentials investors and all CNMI government entities, including the Mayor of Rota, the Municipal Council of Rota and the Rota Legislative Delegations, to name a few.

The commission said that these rules and regulations reflect lessons learned from other resources and other enacted casino industry regulations.

Created based on their assessment and accountability systems, the proposed regulations are a continuance of the dialogue and addresses some of the more technical aspects of the casino industry.

For further information, contact the RCGC Office through e-mail at rotacommission@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

CityLiving tastes island living

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Staff members and models of Tokyo newspaper CityLiving take time for a photo at the Hyatt Regency Saipan with Marianas Visitors Authority marketing specialist Tatiana Babauta, right, during the group's familiarization tour of Saipan earlier this month.

Staff members of a major Tokyo newspaper recently traded city life for a taste of island life during a familiarization tour of Saipan this month.

The newspaper *CityLiving* sent a six-member team including models, directors, a writer, and a photographer to Saipan on Nov. 6-10, 2008, to prepare for an article to be published next month.

Published by Sankei Living Shimbun since 1981, *CityLiving* has a circulation of 185,701 copies and targets female workers 20-40 years old. *CityLiving* is distributed to offices in Tokyo, and its articles focus on topics of culture, travel, food and health.

"This is an ideal publication for the Northern Marianas to be featured in, as female workers continue to be one of our major target markets in Japan," said MVA managing director Perry Tenorio. "The tour group covered a number of locations in just a few days of shooting, and we the scenes they captured will entice some of their readers to come and taste island life for themselves."

While on Saipan, the group visited Hyatt Regency Saipan, Kingfisher Golf Links, and Managaha. They did additional shooting at Pure Color, Toninos, Oleai Beach Bar & Grill, Big Dipper, The Flair, Price Costco, Coffee Care, Hafa Adai Shopping Center, Sabalu Market, and Paupau Beach.

With the support of Hyatt Regency Saipan, Tasi Tours, The Flair, Coffee Care, JM Nursery and other members, MVA provided the tour group with complimentary hotel rooms, ground transportation and support, assistance with shooting permitting, and other services. The Northern Marianas will receive $56,000 in publicity in the Dec. 12, 2008, edition of the paper, when Master Card and MVA introduce Saipan in a two-page article. ***(MVA)***

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USED CARS

STOCK	YEAR	MODEL	TRANS.	MILEAGE	COLOR	LICENSE #	PRICE	REDUCED PRICE
TOYOTA SEDANS								
R08-015F	2005	ECHO 4DR	AUTO	59734	WHITE	ADJ-831	9,299	
R08-019F	2005	COROLLA 4DR	AUTO	41092	WHITE	ACD-346	10,799	
R08-011F	2007	YARIS 4DR	AUTO	65940	SILVER	ACC-154	11,399	
R08-008F	2006	CAMRY LE 4DR	AUTO	18576	BEIGE	ADN-161	15,999	
R08-020F	2006	CAMRY LE 4DR	AUTO	50052	RED	ADO-831	15,999	
U08-043P	2000	CELICA 2DR	MANUAL	72097	BLUE	ABZ-838	7,999	
GM CARS								
R08-014F	2006	AVEO 4DR.	AUTO	33945	WHITE	ADS-642	9,999	
R07-013F	2005	AVEO HATCHBACK	AUTO	39164	ORANGE	ADO-022	~~9,599~~	6,899
R07-034F	2005	OPTRA 4DR.	AUTO	14592	SILVER	ACD-020	~~10,999~~	9,499
LEXUS								
U08-067P	1995	LEXUS LS400	AUTO	24762	WHITE	ABS-062	11,399	
R08-003F	2003	LEXUS LS430	AUTO	54477	IVORY	ADU-502	~~29,999~~	26,899
TOYOTA TRUCKS								
R07-038F	2004	TACOMA 4X2 XTRACAB	AUTO	49609	BEIGE	ABV-159	~~11,899~~	10,599
OTHER CARS & TRUCKS								
U07-106P	2004	HONDA CIVIC DX 4DR	AUTO	53147	SILVER	ADF-401	~~8,999~~	7,999
U07-107P	2004	HONDA CIVIC DX 4DR	AUTO	48755	SILVER	ADF-421	~~8,999~~	7,999
U07-034T	2000	NISSAN MAXIMA GXE 4DR.	AUTO	68648	WHITE	ACT-812	~~10,999~~	8,399
U07-104T	2003	NISSAN MURANO SE	AUTO	32000	PEWT	ABZ-615	~~16,799~~	15,299
U08-038T	2001	MITS MONTERO WGN	AUTO	93155	BEIGE	CVS-88	7,999	
U07-095T	1999	MAZDA MILLENIA 4DR.SEDAN	AUTO	91014	SILVER	ABP-583	~~7,999~~	4,899
GM VAN								
R08-017F	2003	EXPRESS VAN	AUTO	117560	WHITE	BUS-1077	9,499	
GM SUV								
U08-074P	2005	TRAIL BLAZER	AUTO	33881	GRAY	ACE-728	7,999	
SPORT UTILITY								
U07-050T	2002	RAV4 4DR 4WD	AUTO	39182	WHITE	ABW-677	~~13,699~~	12,799

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A. Samoa voters give Togiola another term

61-year-old politician has been governor since 2003

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (RNZI/PIR)—Preliminary results from American Samoa's gubernatorial run off election show that the incumbents Governor Togiola Tulafono and Lt, Governor Faoa Ipulasi Sunia have been returned to power.

The Togiola pairing garnered 6,590 votes to 5,590 ballots for challengers Utu Abe Malae and Nua Mailo Saoluaga.

The incumbents led in nearly all of the 44 voting precincts by narrow margins but commanded a clear majority in the Eastern District villages were the governor is from.

Togiola had the support of Afoa Moega Lutu, who came third in the general elections on November 4.

Because none of the four teams received 50% of votes cast , a run off election was necessary between the top two teams.

This will be Togiola's final term in office because under local law he is barred from serving a third consecutive term.

Togiola was lt. governor from 1996 to 2003 and acceded to the governor's chair when then Governor Tauese Sunia passed away.

Togila won his first election as governor in 2004.

The new administration will take office January 3, 2009.

PACIFIC BRIEFS

PNG'S $2.4 billion fiscal budget includes jet

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (RNZI/PIR)—The Papua New Guinea Chamber of Commerce says the government should reconsider its plans to buy a jet aircraft for the Prime Minister's use. The Treasurer Patrick Pruaitch unveiled a cut back Budget for 2009 with revenue expectations down dramatically because of the falling prices for commodities such as oil and gold. The Chamber's Michael Mayberry says the body does not have too many concerns with the Budget, but he says the Government needs to ensure that unnecessary spending, such as on a government plane, is reconsidered. "They have overseas trips and things like that, and to us, the benefits for the country, both in the short term and the long term is probably questionable. So we sort of feel that if you are short of money then you have got to cut your cloth according to what money you have got. That expenditure should be considered in that context."

Samoa police commissioner caught with guns

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (RNZI/PIR)—Samoa's Police Commissioner says he did not ask for nor wanted the guns that were in a package from an American Samoa police captain, and he says he feels he was set up. Papali'i Lorenese Neru was giving evidence at a Commission of Inquiry into the smuggling of firearms from American Samoa aboard the police patrol boat, the MV Nafanua. The Commissioner said he was shocked to find that the box of personal effects from Police captain, Papali'i Marion Fitisemanu had contained firearms, including three rifles and a pistol. Meanwhile, Papali'i says the Police and Customs canine unit in Samoa is considering training its dogs to sniff out firearms and ammunitions. He also told the inquiry of there might be a second gun amnesty next year, after the success of the first one where more than 300 weapons were handed to the police voluntarily.

'SINGING V' WINNERS CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The "Singing V at Club V" competition held its final round last Nov. 18. From left, Oscar Yema, Singing V host; Alex of Viralicci Salon, Weeks 1 and 2 champion; Tina of Smartstart Day Care and Pre-school, Weeks 3 and 4 champion; Marvin Espeleta, Weeks 4, and 5 champion; Michelle Vilaraza, Weeks 6, 7 and 8 champion; Joanne Canbrera, Weeks 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 champion; and DJ Zyra, Singing V Co-host.

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2006 Honda Civic LX
STOCK # 6L009897
$17,995.00*

2006 Nissan Armada 4x4
STOCK # 6N736174
$27,995.00*

2004 Honda Civic LX
STOCK # 4L022357
$13,995.00*

2005 Ford Mustang
STOCK # 55105436
$23,995.00

2005 Nissan Frontier 4x4
STOCK # 5C424207
$17,995.00

2005 Ford Ranger
STOCK # 5PA78255
$12,995.00*

2004 Honda Element EX 4x4
STOCK # 4L003130
$15,995.00*

2005 Nissan Pathfinder SE 4x4
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Refrigerated Cheese Cake, Baked Cheese Cake, Strawberry Swirl Cheese Cake....

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GCA students compete in Geographic Bee

Students of the Grace Christian Academy will be participating in the first round of the 2009 National Geographic Bee.

The competition will be held today, Nov. 21, beginning at 12:30pm, at the school's auditorium on Navy Hill.

The winner of Grace Christian Academy's Bee will advance to the next level of competition, a written examination to determine state competitors. All school winners are eligible to win the national championship and its first prize, a $25,000 college scholarship, at the national competition May 19 and 20 in Washington, D.C.

For the 21st year, the National Geographic Society is holding the National Geographic Bee for students in the fourth through eighth grades in thousands of schools across the United States and in the five U.S territories, as well as in Department of Defense school around the world. ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

DUI checkpoints today, tomorrow

The Saipan Department of Public Safety's Traffic Section will be conducting DUI/sobriety checkpoints this weekend:

The first checkpoint will be held today, Nov. 21, 2008, on Beach Road Susupe by Minatchom Atdao pavilion. This operation will start at about 10pm and will end at 11:15pm.

The second checkpoint will be conducted on the same date on Chalan Pale Arnold Road, in Gualo Rai, by the Sherwin-Williams Building. This will start at 3am and will terminate at about 4:15am.

The DPS Traffic Section will also be conducting DUI/sobriety checkpoints tomorrow, Nov. 22, on Chalan Pale Arnold Road, Chalan Laulau, by the PTI building, from 7:30pm to about 8:45pm.

The second checkpoint on this date will be on Beach Road, Susupe by the Multi-Purpose Building, from 10pm to about 11:15pm.

All checkpoints are subject to be terminated if it begins to rain. In addition to the checkpoints, officers will be conducting highway criminal interdictions and laser activities. ***(DPS)***

Open House at Hopwood today

Hopwood Jr. High School's Report Card Day/Open House will be held today, Nov. 21, from 2:30pm to 5:30pm. Report cards will be picked up from student homerooms. Students will be released at 1pm. ***(PR)***

CNMI WIC moves to new location

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program under the CNMI Department of Public Health would like to inform the public and WIC participants that effective Monday, Nov. 24, 2008, the program will be relocating its clinic to Building N-13, Upper Navy Hill (behind Brilliant Star School--follow the blue WIC signs). For any questions, call 664-4067. ***(PR)***

New office hours for child care office

Beginning Dec. 1, 2008, the Child Care Program Office will be closed for business every Friday, from 1pm to 4:30pm. This time will be used for administrative purposes, such as processing of clients' applications, re-eligibility, monitoring and other activities essential to the smooth operation of the program.

The new business hours will be:

- Monday to Thursday 7:30am to 4:30pm
- Friday 7:30am to 1pm

Red Cross Health & Safety Trainings

The American Red Cross announces the following health and safety training for the month December 2008:

- Adult CPR: Dec. 2, Tuesday, 6pm -10pm
- First Aid: Dec. 16, Tuesday, 6pm – 10pm
- Infant & Child CPR: Dec. 20, Saturday, 8am – 1pm.

The training fee for Adult CPR and First Aid is $30 per person/per course and the training fee for the Infant & Child CPR is $35 per person. A participant's booklet is required. Participant's booklet is $5 each and is good for all three courses.

For more information, call the NMI Chapter Office at 234-3459. ***(ARC)***

Invitation to a reunion!

Join the Marriage Encounter Community at a weekend reunion on Monday, Nov. 24, 2008, starting with a 6pm Mass at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral Chapel. This will be followed by the reunion at 6:30pm at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral Social Hall (Joeten-Daidai Social Hall).

For newly encountered couples, this is your final presentation of the Weekend. For encountered couples, come meet the new couples! Refreshments are most welcome—bring any to share. ***(PR)***

MHS Class of '88 meeting

The Marianas High School Class of 1988 will have a meeting on Friday, Nov. 29, 2008, at the residence of Melvin P. and Eleanor A. Cepeda in As Lito at 6:30pm. All classmates are encouraged to attend this important meeting. If you have any questions, call Eleanor A. Cepeda at 483-6358.

Events at Sr. Remedios School

Upcoming events at the Sister Remedios Early Childhood Development Center:

Nov. 21, 2008 Last day to turn in canned goods for food drive

Nov. 22, 2008 Rummage sale (school porch) ***(PR)***

CAO seeks vendors for cultural show

The Carolinian Affairs Office, in cooperation with the Refaluwasch Genealogy Society, is seeking proposals for the development and operation of a cultural show to include Carolinian culture at the Carolinian utt in Garapan. Interested tourism vendors are invited to attend a meeting on Dec. 5, 2008 at 3pm at CAO to discuss requirements. For more information, contact CAO at (670) 234-6385.

Holiday Artists Sale reservations

Spaces are beginning to fill up for the 4th Annual Holiday Artists Sale, which will be held at the Multi-purpose Center on Nov. 29-30. Those who would like to participate may reserve space by contacting Katharyn Tuten-Puckett (tutenpuckett@yahoo.com) or Jeanne Rayphand (jeanneesq@yahoo.com). Reservation fee is $25 for one space; $15 for each additional space. ***(PR)***

Math placement test set

The Northern Marianas College will be conducting the Math Placement Tests on the following dates:

Jan. 6	10am - 12pm	Room: D-1
	5pm - 7pm	Room: D-1
Jan. 8	10am - 12pm	Room: D-1
	5pm - 7pm	Room: A-9
Jan. 13	10am - 12pm	Room: A-9
Jan. 15	5pm - 7pm	Room: A-9

No reservations needed—first come first served. No admittance to the testing room will be allowed after the starting times listed above.

Those who wish to take the test must bring a valid ID (Drivers License, passport or School ID), pens or pencils and a calculator (optional). There is a $25 fee for the Math Placement Test that must be paid in advance at the NMC Cashier Window at the Finance Office, located in Building N. Applicants will not be admitted to the testing room without proof of payment (a receipt for the placement test fee). NMC students are not allowed to take the placement test more than once. The only exception to this condition is for NMC students who have *not* taken a math class within one year of taking the math placement test.

Call the Sciences, Mathematics, Health & Athletics Department at (670) 234-5498 Ext. 1200 or 1212 for more information. ***(NMC)***

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Business

Finger-pointing begins as Senate nixes auto vote

WASHINGTON (AP)—A Democratic Congress, unwilling or unable to approve a $25 billion bailout for Detroit's Big Three, appears ready to punt the automakers' fate to a lame-duck Republican president. Caught in the middle of a who-blinks-first standoff are legions of manufacturing firms and auto dealers—and millions of Americans' jobs—after Senate Democrats canceled a showdown vote that had been expected Thursday. President George W. Bush has "no appetite" to act on his own.

U.S. auto companies employ nearly a quarter-million workers, and more than 730,000 other people have jobs producing the materials and parts that go into cars. About 1 million on top of that work in dealerships nationwide. If just one of the auto giants were to go belly up, some estimates put U.S. job losses next year as high as 2.5 million.

"If GM is telling us the truth, they go into bankruptcy and you see a cascade like you have never seen," said Sen. George V. Voinovich, R-Ohio, who was working on one rescue plan Wednesday. "If people want to go home and not do anything, I think that they're going to have that on their hands."

The automakers—hobbled by lackluster sales and choked credit—are burning through money at an alarming and accelerating rate: about $18 billion in the last quarter alone. General Motors Corp. has said it could collapse within weeks, and there are indications that Chrysler LLC might not be far behind. Ford Motor Co. has said it could get through the end of 2008, but it's unclear how much longer.

For now, however, with the federal emergency loan plan stalled in the Senate, lawmakers in both parties are engaged in a high-stakes game of chicken, positioning themselves to blame each other for the failure.

AP

Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., holds up a print-out of a New York Times article as he testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington, Wednesday, Nov. 19, 2008, before a Financial Services Committee hearing on the automotive industry bailout.

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Dow slips below 8,000 on growing fear of deflation

WASHINGTON (AP)—A growing fear of economic deflation helped take the air out of the stock market Wednesday, and another white-knuckle final hour on Wall Street pushed the Dow Jones industrials under 8,000 to their lowest close since the financial meltdown began.

Consumer prices in October took their biggest monthly plunge in the six decades that records have been kept—a reprieve for shoppers but a danger sign for the economy because falling prices can make a mild recession spiral into something worse.

The drop illustrated once again how quickly the economic danger can shift in tumultuous times like these. The inflation fears that gripped the nation just a few months ago now seem like a distant memory.

"Consumer price inflation has suddenly screeched into reverse," said Brian Bethune, economist at IHS Global Insight. "The inflation threat has disappeared from the radar screen."

Worried about the economic data, a gloomy outlook from the Federal Reserve and the fate of the Big Three automakers, investors yanked money out of the stock market. The Dow drifted lower for most of the day, then plummeted in a tumultuous final hour of trading.

It crossed under 8,000 in the last minutes before the closing bell and closed down 427 points, or about 5 percent, at 7,997—its lowest close since March 2003. The average has dipped below 8,000 on other days since the meltdown began in mid-September but had not closed there.

The Standard & Poor's 500, a broader snapshot of the stock market, slipped more than 6 percent. The financial crisis has already wiped out $6.7 trillion of value from the S&P 500 since its October 2007 high. In the same period, the Dow has lost more than 6,000 points.

"I don't know what the catalyst is going to be where we turn the corner and people start buying stocks wholeheartedly again," said Jon Biele, head of capital markets at Cowen & Co. "People got out of the way. The financial situation hasn't changed."

Fed lowers forecasts, hints of rate cut

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Federal Reserve on Wednesday sharply lowered its projections for economic activity this year and next, and signaled that additional interest rate reductions may be needed to help combat the worst financial crisis to jolt the country in more than a half-century.

With the economy forecast to lose traction, or even jolt into reverse, unemployment will move higher, the Fed predicted.

Facing the likelihood of "significant weakness" in the economy, some Fed officials suggested "additional policy easing could well be appropriate at future meetings," according to documents from the Fed's most recent closed-door deliberations on interest rate policy at the end of October.

At that Oct. 29 session, the Fed ratcheted down rates to 1 percent, a level seen only once before in the last half-century. Many economists predict the Fed will lower rates again at its last meeting of the year on Dec. 16, to help brace the sinking economy.

Even while hinting that another rate reduction could be forthcoming, Fed officials worried that the effectiveness of previous rate cuts "may have been diminished by the financial dislocations, suggesting that further policy action might have limited efficacy in promoting a recovery in economic growth," the documents said.

To help ease financial turmoil and spur banks to lend money more freely again to customers, the Fed has taken a series of other unprecedented steps, including offering short-term cash loans and buying up mounds of short-term debt that companies rely on to pay day-to-day expenses like payrolls and supplies.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS

PUBLIC NOTICE

To: Homesteaders

The Department of Public Lands Homestead Division will be conducting their monthly site inspections on November 26, 2008, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Areas to be inspected will be As Matuis, Kagman, Dandan and Koblerville homesteads.

Thank you

Homestead Division

Law does not protect lazy or lousy workers

By LILY GARCIA
Special to The Washington Post

Garcia, whose column regularly appears on WashingtonPost.com, has offered employment law and human resources advice to companies of all sizes for 10 years.

Q. I've worked with someone for about 12 years. He has some problems at work, including falling asleep frequently, extremely poor hygiene, procrastination and frequent sloppiness/errors. He has some learning disabilities, but they affect his job performance inconsistently.

In the past, I have supported him with large projects where his organizational difficulties have put us in jeopardy of missing deadlines. This year, I am a project manager and have been proactive in providing guidelines for everyone. I now see a different side of his behavior. He will knowingly put off working on the project while surfing the Internet. He will move from one location to another and exclaim, "Oh darn, I forgot to bring my project work. I guess I can't work on it."

Most recently, he entered information into a report that was blatantly false. First, he claimed to not understand what he had done. Then he blamed others for not proofreading his work. He also seems to enjoy the ensuing drama.

He has more than once said: "Well, what are they going to do if I don't do the work correctly or on time?" I am stressed and somewhat baffled at how to handle this manipulative behavior.

A. I will assume that your co-worker's learning disabilities make him "disabled" as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act or the Rehabilitation Act. Depending on the nature and severity of his disability, your organization might be legally required to accommodate him under one of those laws.

Under either of the federal disability laws, your organization is required only to make an accommodation that is "reasonable." In the case of your co-worker, that might mean helping him stay organized and arranging to have his work proofread more closely. The law does not, however, require that employers cater to lazy or opportunistic workers.

You must address the specific counterproductive behaviors you have observed, which surely have nothing to do with this employee's learning disabilities. At the same time, you must continue to appropriately support your co-worker in his legitimate struggles.

How you address these issues depends on the nature of your relationship with your co-worker. If project managers in your organization have some responsibility for performance feedback, then you can address your co-worker's performance problems directly. If, however, you are in a peer-to-peer relationship, then you should explain these problems to your co-worker's manager so he or she can have the performance discussion.

In either case, keep detailed notes and be as specific as possible. The times you have witnessed this employee avoiding work by declaring shamelessly that he left his project file at a different location are a perfect example. You can also bring up the fact that you have observed him surfing the Internet when he is confronting a project deadline. In terms of attitude, you can discuss the destructive and demoralizing effect of his open declaration that he is, essentially, immune from discipline for his failure to deliver accurate work in a timely manner.

If you are not in a position to provide performance feedback directly, you can still address his behavior by taking the time to respond to what you see. For example, when he declares that he cannot do his project work because he has left his materials at his desk, offer to bring the materials to him. When he suggests that he cannot be disciplined for not properly completing projects, say, "I don't know what could happen to you, but I do know that the rest of us working on Project X are counting on you to deliver a quality product." If you see him surfing the Internet, invite him to have a project status meeting with you.

What you have on your hands is a co-worker with serious performance problems that appear to be rooted in a poor work ethic rather than a bona fide disability. To the extent that you are responsible for ensuring the timely delivery of first-rate projects, you must act. Demonstrate to your co-worker that, although you want to help him overcome the challenges of his learning disability, you will not tolerate sabotage.

$ DOLLARS AND SENSE

Cut holiday spending with homemade gifts

By DAVID UFFINGTON
(C) 2008 KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

Although stores have displayed red and green decorations for more than a month, Thanksgiving week is the official kickoff of the holiday spending season. Merchants are going to pull out all the stops to get you to part with your money. It's time for all your good intentions—"This year I won't overspend on gifts"—to be put to the test. To the extent that you realistically can, consider making your gifts this year.

Food is always a favorite. Pull out your recipe files and select three that are easy to make. Give cookies, candies and sweets of all kinds with the recipe printed on a file card.

Look online for jar mix recipes for homemade soup, drinks, brownies, cookies, pizza spices, bath salts, muffins and bread, sauces and dips and teas. Mix the dry ingredients, label the glass jar and wrap with a ribbon and bow.

If you're good with crafts, these are easy to make: bookmarks, padded hangers, lingerie drawer sachets, drink coasters, key rings, decorated jewelry boxes and picture frames, costume jewelry, macrame wall hangings, pin cushions, and photo or theme placemats.

If you're adventurous, consider making scented candles, hand cream, lip balm or soaps.

Let the kids help make refrigerator magnets out of faux dough that you bake and paint.

If you have a computer, create photo calendars and family albums done on your printer.

If you're just not handy, there are still ways to give gifts without breaking the bank: a pizza cutter and coupon for a free pizza, a blank journal and a pen/pencil set, a theme gift basket with items geared to the recipient's interests, tickets to a play or sports event, or a jigsaw puzzle for a family.

For the seniors in your family, consider making coupon books for chores and projects that need to be done around their homes. Not only will you be helping with things they can't do themselves, they'll enjoy the time spent with you more than they'd enjoy another cardigan.

Remember that it really is the thought that counts in gift-giving, not the price tag. And no doubt many others are also thinking about how to economize on gifts this year.

David Uffington regrets that he cannot personally answer reader questions, but will incorporate them into his column whenever possible. Write to him in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send e-mail to columnreply@gmail.com.

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Nation

Calif. Supreme Court to take up gay marriage ban

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—California's highest court agreed Wednesday to hear several legal challenges to the state's new ban on same-sex marriage but refused to allow gay couples to resume marrying before it rules.

The California Supreme Court accepted three lawsuits seeking to nullify Proposition 8, a voter-approved constitutional amendment that overruled the court's decision in May that legalized gay marriage.

All three cases claim the measure abridges the civil rights of a vulnerable minority group. They argue that voters alone did not have the authority to enact such a significant constitutional change.

As is its custom when it takes up cases, the court elaborated little. However, the justices did say they want to address what effect, if any, a ruling upholding the amendment would have on the estimated 18,000 same-sex marriages that were sanctioned in California before election day.

Gay rights groups and local governments petitioning to overturn the ban were joined by the measure's sponsors and Attorney General Jerry Brown in urging the Supreme Court to consider whether Proposition 8 passes legal muster.

The initiative's opponents had also asked the court to grant a stay of the measure, which would have allowed gay marriages to begin again while the justices considered the cases. The court denied that request.

The justices directed Brown and lawyers for the Yes on 8 campaign to submit arguments by Dec. 19 on why the ballot initiative should not be nullified. It said lawyers for the plaintiffs, who include same-sex couples who did not wed before the election, must respond before Jan. 5.

Oral arguments could be scheduled as early as March, according to court spokeswoman Lynn Holton.

Both opponents and supporters of Proposition 8 expressed confidence Wednesday that their arguments would prevail.

But they also agreed that the cases present the court's seven justices—six of whom voted to review the challenges—with complex questions that have few precedents in state case law.

The lawsuits argue that voters improperly abrogated the judiciary's authority by stripping same-sex couples of the right to wed after the high court earlier ruled it was discriminatory to prohibit gay men and lesbians from marrying.

"If given effect, Proposition 8 would work a dramatic, substantive change to our Constitution's 'underlying principles' of individual on a scale and scope never previously condoned by this court," lawyers for the same-sex couples stated in their petition.

AP

Rev. Amos Brown, a national board member of the NAACP, raises his hands as he speaks to a large crowd of supporters of same-sex marriage, as they cheer in front of San Francisco City Hall on Saturday, Nov. 15, 2008.

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ANOTHER FAMILIAR FACE

Daschle to take health post

WASHINGTON (AP)—Barack Obama is enlisting former Senate leader Tom Daschle as his health secretary, embracing a third Washington insider in the early stages of Cabinet-building by the president-elect who promised change. Hillary Rodham Clinton, the capital's most famous woman for two decades, seemed ever more likely to be his secretary of state.

Clinton is deciding whether to take that post as America's top diplomat, her associates said Wednesday. And Obama is poised to announce that his attorney general will be Eric Holder, who was the Justice Department's No. 2 when Sen. Clinton's husband was president.

Keeping the seating charts straight is Rahm Emanuel, Obama's chief of staff and another veteran of the Clinton White House.

It's still early in the building of an administration by the candidate who built his campaign on promises of change. But so far fresh faces have been few.

Daschle's selection to head the Department of Health and Human Services—confirmed Wednesday but not yet announced—isn't at the same level of Cabinet prestige as the top spots at the State and Justice departments. But the health post could be more important in an Obama administration than in some others, making Daschle a key player in helping steer the president-elect's promised health care reforms.

Arraignment set for Cheney, Gonzales

RAYMONDVILLE, Texas (AP)—A Texas judge has set a Friday arraignment for Vice President Dick Cheney, former U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales and others named in indictments accusing them of responsibility for prisoner abuse in a federal detention center.

Cheney, Gonzales and the others will not be arrested, and do not need to appear in person at the arraignment, Presiding Judge Manuel Banales said.

In the latest bizarre development in the case, the lame-duck prosecutor who won the indictments was a no-show in court Wednesday. The judge ordered Texas Rangers to go to Willacy County District Attorney Juan Guerra's house, check on his well-being and order him to court on Friday.

Half of the eight high-profile indictments returned Monday by a Willacy County grand jury are tied to privately run federal detention centers in the sparsely populated South Texas county. The other half target judges and special prosecutors who played a role in an earlier investigation of Guerra.

One indictment charges Cheney and Gonzales with engaging in organized criminal activity. It alleges that the men neglected federal prisoners and are responsible for assaults in the facilities.

The grand jury accused Cheney of a conflict of interest because of his influence over the county's federal immigrant detention center and his substantial holdings in the Vanguard Group, which invests in private prison companies.

The indictment accuses Gonzales of stopping an investigation into abuses at the federal detention center.

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Beef Flanksteak	$3.79/lb.
Beef Ribeye	$3.79/lb.
Beef Oxtail	$3.79/lb.
Stewing	$1.29/lb.
Leg Quarter	$1.09/lb.

Ground Pork $17.99/pkg.

Bar S Bacon $2.29/pkg.

Miller Sausage $15.99/pkg.

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Stewing Chicken $1.29/lb.

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Bush set to relax endangered species rules

WASHINGTON (AP)—Animals and plants in danger of becoming extinct could lose the protection of government experts who make sure that dams, highways and other projects don't pose a threat, under regulations the Bush administration is set to put in place before President-elect Obama can reverse them.

The rules must be published Friday to take effect before Obama is sworn in Jan. 20. Otherwise, he can undo them with the stroke of a pen.

The Interior Department rushed to complete the rules in three months over the objections of lawmakers and environmentalists who argued that they would weaken how a landmark conservation law is applied.

A Nov. 12 version of the final rules obtained by the Associated Press has changed little from the original proposal, despite the more than 250,000 comments received since it was first proposed in August.

The rules eliminate the input of federal wildlife scientists in some endangered species cases, allowing the federal agency in charge of building, authorizing or funding a project to determine for itself if it is likely to harm endangered wildlife and plants.

Current regulations require independent wildlife biologists to sign off on these decisions before a project can go forward, at times modifying the design to better protect species.

The regulations also bar federal agencies from assessing emissions of the gases blamed for global warming on species and habitats, a tactic environmentalists have tried to use to block new coal-fired power plants.

Tina Kreisher, an Interior Department spokeswoman, could not confirm whether the rule would be published before the deadline, saying only that the White House was still reviewing it. But she said changes were being made based on the comments received.

"We started this; we want to finish this," said Kreisher.

If the rules go into effect before Obama takes office, they will be difficult to overturn since it would require the new administration to restart the rule-making process. Congress, however, could reverse the rules through the Congressional Review Act—a law that allows review of new federal regulations.

It's been used once in the last 12 years, but some Democratic lawmakers have said they may employ it to block the endangered species rules and other midnight regulations by the Bush administration.

Rep. Nick Rahall, D-W.Va., chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee, said Wednesday that he and other Democrats were committed to "the change that is needed."

Drew Hammill, a spokesman for House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said the House will be looking at ways to overturn the endangered species rules and other midnight regulations.

"The House, in consultation with the incoming administration and relevant committees, will review what oversight tools are at our disposal regarding this and other last minute attempts to inflict severe damage to the law in the waning moments of the Bush administration," Hammill said.

The Bush administration has made no secret of its intent to complete the endangered species changes quickly.

When the proposal was first announced in August, the public was initially given 30 days to comment. That period was later doubled after Democratic lawmakers pressed for more time.

ACROSS THE NATION

Upstate NY dad drowns saving 2 sons after crash

MANCHESTER, N.Y. (AP)—A man whose car slid off a snowy road and into a 12-foot-deep pond saved the two sons he had been driving home but could not save himself, police said. Sean Dusinberre kicked out the driver's-side window of his submerged Pontiac Grand Am on Tuesday, pushed 13-year-old Joshua out into the murky, frigid water and then followed him to the surface with 3-year-old Dylan on his back, authorities said. Coughing up water, Joshua reached the bank of the 100-yard-wide backyard pond in rural western New York and ran screaming for help. When emergency crews arrived, they found Dylan floating in the water, performed CPR and rushed him to a hospital. There was no sign of the boys' 37-year-old father, who had collapsed back into the water and drowned. Divers found his body in the silt about four hours later.

Animal rights video shows turkey abuse in W.Va.

LEWISBURG, W.Va. (AP)—Global poultry grower Aviagen Inc. said Wednesday it has suspended a supervisor and would investigate a video released by an animal rights group that appears to show horrific abuse of turkeys at the company's West Virginia farms. People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals said the video, which includes workers stomping on turkeys' heads and twisting their necks to kill them, was shot by an undercover investigator who worked on the companies' farms for more than two months. The undercover worker, who was not identified, described stifling, dusty barns where the animals were kept and caught video of several workers killing turkeys, slamming them into metal cages and bragging about previous abuse of the animals. The New York Times first reported the allegations.

Prosecutor: Woman plotted hoax that led to suicide

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A Missouri woman, her teenage daughter and an employee used an elaborate Internet ruse to terrorize a 13-year-old neighbor girl who later committed suicide, a federal prosecutor said Wednesday. U.S. Attorney Thomas O'Brien told jurors during his opening statement that Lori Drew helped create a false identity on the social networking site MySpace. Posing online as a teenage boy, Drew befriended Megan Meier, he said. Evidence shows that Drew opened the MySpace account and "fully intended to hurt and prey on Megan's psyche," O'Brien told jurors. Drew is accused of harassing Megan with cruel messages, which ultimately led her to take her life in 2006. Prosecutors characterize the case as the nation's first cyber-bullying case, and the results from it could set legal precedents regarding online harassment.

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

GUAM INSURANCE ADJUSTERS, INC., Plaintiff, -v- CATHERINE BORJA PANGELINAN, Deceased. : CIVIL ACTION NO. 06-0576

SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is served upon you hereby, within twenty-one (21) days after the fourth publication of this Summons, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Law Office of Michael A. White, LLC, the Plaintiffs's Attorneys, whose address is P.O. Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file an answer with this Summons, judgment buy default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

By order of the above court:

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

Dated this 18th day of November, 2008:

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CITY TRUST BANK, Plaintiff, -v- JOSEPH ALDAN ARRIOLA, Defendant. : CIVIL ACTION NO. 07-0021

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on October 31, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Lot No. 034 L 129, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 257 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described in the Subdivision of Lot 034 L 63, on DLS Check No. 034 L 21 recorded in the Commonwealth Recorder's Office as File No. 97-1299; and Lot 034 L 130, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 257 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described in the Subdivision of Lot 034 L 63, on DLS Check No. 34 L 21, recorded in the Commonwealth Recorder's Office as File No. 97-1299.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, December 12, 2008, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 5th day of November, 2008:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

SAIPAN SABALU FARMERS MARKET (SSFM), INC.

P.O. Box 7687 SVRB, Saipan, MP 96950

Customers Appreciation Day & *Pre-Thanksgiving Celebration*

The Board of Directors and participating vendors of the Saipan Sabalu Farmers Market (SSFM), Inc. are cordially inviting the CNMI community to visit the Sabalu Market in Susupe, Saipan (across from Marianas High School) on Saturday, November 22, 2008, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and to enjoy the live entertainment by Ms. Maggie Naputi.

We have the best quality and wide variety of fresh vegetables, fruits, root crops, fresh fish, fresh sweet juicy & mouth watering shrimp, ready-to-eat apigigi, tamales, ahu, titiyas, young coconut juice and other agricultural produce and commodities grown of Saipan and fresh from the farms for your holiday celebrations at real bargain prices.

COME AND SHOP EVERY TUESDAY AND SATURDAY AT THE MARKET!

PARTICIPATING VENDORS:

- **Saipan Aquaculture Co., Inc.** *(Anthony Pelegrino)*
- **Jose C. Tudela Roadside Vendor** *(Justo Cruz)*
- **Little Joe Roadside Vendor** *(Joseph Rosario)*
- **Greenlife Local Fresh Produce** *(Sol San Nicolas)*
- **DJ Fish Mobil** *(Menellia S. Castro)*
- **Island Farmer's Market** *(Patrick Calvo)*
- **Art Guerrero Farm** (Artermo DI.Guerrero)
- **Greg Calvo Farm** *(Greg Calvo)*
- **JM Nursery** *(Jesus *JM* Guerrero)*
- **Fong's Bakery** *(Maggie Taimanao)*
- **Acosta Farm** *(Carmen Acosta)*
- **3J's Enterprises** *(Santiago Tudela) Board member*
- **Castro Fruits & Vegetables** *(Frank C. Castro)*
- **Dela Cruz Pastry** *(Connie DLC. Torres) Secretary*
- **Live Fish & Poultry** *Inez Guerrero*

BUSINESS HOURS:

Every Saturday Market 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Location: Susupe, across Marianas High School

Every Tuesday Market from 3:00p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Location: Garapan Fishing Base site

Thank You for Supporting Your Local Farmers!

Happy Thanksgiving!

PARTICIPATING VENDORS:

- **R & D Enterprises** *(Ray B. Camacho)*
- **Ada's Farm** *(William *Bill* Ada) President*
- **A & A Retail Produce** *(Anthony Duenas)*
- **Cabrera Farm** *(Manuel Cabrera)*
- **Castro Multi-Farm** *(Jesus M. Castro) Vice President*
- **Saipan Farm & Garden** *(Ed C. DL Guerrero)*
- **Guerrero's Farm Produce** *(Crispin **Kuri** DL Guerrero)*
- **Food Merchant Int'l** *(Constantino Galang)*
- **Tuhu Produkton Lancero** *(Ana B. Santos)*
- **Carmen's Nursery** (Carmen Pangelinan)
- **Lamb's Farm** *(Bernie C. Aldan) Treasurer*
- **M-2 Retail** *(Manuel Boda)*
- **Calistro Reyes Cheryl's Farm** *(Cheryl Baka)*
- **Marianas Farmer** *(Asap Ogumoro) Isidoro T. Cabrera-Board member*

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
CJPA – CRIMINAL JUSTICE PLANNING AGENCY
Northern Marianas Commonwealth Council for the Improvement of the Criminal Justice System

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9912, hereby giving notice that the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Council for the Improvement of the Criminal Justice System, also known as the "Supervisory Council" of the Criminal Justice Planning Agency will hold an Award Meeting on **Tuesday, November 25, 2008, 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M., Napu Conference Room, Pacific Island Club, Saipan.**

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER
II. ROLL CALL
III. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA
IV. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF MINUTES *(October 17, 2008)*
V. NEW BUSINESS
a. Chairman's Remarks/Overview, Hon. Miguel S. Demapan
b. Executive Director's Report, Jerome Ierome
c. Review and Approval of Sub-grant Application:
1. Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Grants:
d. Title II Formula Grant: FY 2006 & FY2008
e. Title V Delinquency Prevention Program: FY2007 & FY2008
f. Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG): FY2007 & FY2008
g. Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) Grant: FY2008
2. Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) Program: FY 2008
3. Justice Assistance Grant (JAG), Edward Byrne Memorial Program, FY2008
4. Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), Victims Assistance Formula Program: FY2008
5. Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Services, Training, Officers, Prosecutors (STOP) Formula Grant Program: FY2007 & FY2008
VI. OLD BUSINESS
VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS
VIII. ADJOURNMENT

All interested individuals are welcome to attend. Should you need more information, please call CJPA at 664-4550-7.

/s/Hon. Miguel S. Demapan
Chairperson

/s/Mr. Jerome Ierome
Executive Director
CJPA

Publication of this notice was paid for with federal funds made possible by Grant Nos. 2007-DB-BX-0076 and 2008-VA-GX-0046 of the Office of Justice Programs and Grant No. 2008-WF-AX-0037 from the Office of Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice.

Commonwealth I Sankattan Siha Na Islas Mariana
Ofisinan I Gubietno
Dipåttamenton I Tano' Pupbliku

NOTISIA POT PRINIPONEN ATKILONTANO PUBLIKO

Segun gi lai 15-2, I Depattamenton Tano, segun i LaiPubliko 15-2, ha anununsia planon atkilon tano publiko giya Tinian, Commonwealth i Sankattan siha na Islas. Todo man-interesao libre munahalom opinion `sino infotmasion pot i mapropopone na planonuson tano publiko. Maprebeniye lokue isigiente siha na infotmasion para benefision publiko tat komo:

1. I tineteka na tano publiko inembrarasa 300 hegtarias. Trabiha ti mamimide este na lugat lao i uminteres umadelanta este na tano publiko pot para u hatsaye casino hotel yan primera na golf course giya Piña, Tinian.. Kopian lugat este na sitiu gaige gi Depattamenton Tano ni libre maina nu i publiku.
2. I para u inatkilai era i Neo Goldwings Paradise, un kotporasion guine giya Marianas. I membron direktot siha i sigiente: Hyun Myung In, presidente/tresurario yan Kwidong Woo, segundo presidente yan sekretario.
3. I mapropopone na atkilon tano publiko manegosio as Señor Kwidong Woo.
4. I para u atkila i lugat para u usa gimahatsan fasilidat hotel casino, golf course yan otro siha na fasilidat.

   I tetminonestena kontrata para 25 años ya siña ma-ekstende talo 15 años.
5. Libre hao mamaisen kopianestena plano gi Depattamenton Tano ni gaige gi segundo bibienda gi Joeten Dandan, Saipan; offisinanTano Publiko giya Luta yan Tinian.
6. I Depattamenton Tano taya otro plano ha resibe gi uson este siha na propiadat publiko giya Piña, Tinian.
7. I Sekretarion Depattamenton Tano Publiko siña ha resibe todo ninahalom opinion yan materiat pot este na proposito uttimo gi Novembre 24, 2008 gi todo Offisinan Tano Publiku giya Saipan, Tinian yan Luta.

ARONGORONG REEL POMWOL AKKILONUL FALÚWEER TOULAP

Sángi Tálil ye 106 (b) mellól Alléghúl Toulap 15-2, Bwulasiyool Ammwlil Falúweer Toulap ekke atotoowow ammataf igha ebwe akkilaaló eghús falúw mellól Tchúlúyól, Commonwealth Téél Falúwasch Marianas. Schóókka eyoor máfiyeer rebwe isisilong aghiyghiir, aweewe, aingiingil reel pomwol akkilonul ammwelil falúweer toulap. Me bwal Alléghúl Toulap ye 15-2, e ayoora, lamal awewee kka rebwe mweiti ngáli milikka ebwe akkatéélló.

i. Pomwol akkilonul falúweer toulap ye ebwe elebwughúw toria (300 hectares), iye rebwe tilifischi ghatchúw bwelle investors rebwe ayúúw leliyel casino me golf resort iye e ghil ngáli bwuleyil Pina mewóól Tchúlúyól elapeló me ngáre eghús. Tilighial bwuley yeel nge eyoor mereel Bwulasiyool Falúweer Toulap (Public Lands) ye Tchúlúyól ngáre óubwe ghuley fischiy.

ii. Schéschéél schóól akkilon nge Neo Gold Wings Paradise Saipan Corporation d.b.a. NGP Casino and Hotel. Schóól Assamwoolul mwiisch (board of directors) mellol corporation nge Myung In Hyun me Kwidong Woo.

   Samwoolul (President/Treasurer) corporation nge Myung In Hyun. Vice President me Sekkretório nge Kwidong Woo.

iii. Schóól aweweel akkilon nge Kwidong Woo.

iv. Schóól akkilon nge ebwe ayúúw me mwóghutáágheli casino mellól hotel me golf resort me akkááw wiisal(fasilidóód).

   Tool aighúghúl pomwol akkilon nge reweigh me limoow ráágh (25 years), emmwel rebwe sóbweey ngáli bwal seigh me limoow ráágh (15 years).

   Pomwol akkilon yeel nge ebwe mwir sángi llapal méél faluw (value of the property).

v. Emmwel bwe tilighial akkilon yeel óubwe bwughil mereel bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap, elo aruwowal pwó (2nd floor) me Joeten Dandan Commercial Building llol Dandan, Seipél; aruwowal pwó (2nd floor) mellól Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Luuta; me ngáre mmwal pwó (1st floor) mellól Kings Commercial Building, Tchúlúyól.

vi. Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap nge esáál bweibwogh mwo pomwol akkilon ye elo Piña, Tchúlúyól.

vii. Samwoolul Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap nge ebwe bwughil ischil mángemáng, aingiingil mereel amweyút mmwal schagh Nobiembre (November) 24, 2008 mellól Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap iye elo Seipél, Luuta, Tchúlúyol.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND

The Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent, under Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, to lease certain public lands on Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

i. The proposed lease of public land is about 300 hectares that has yet to be surveyed to which investor plans to lease for purposes of building a casino hotel and golf resort situated in the Piña Area on Tinian. A copy of the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands for review.

ii. The prospective lessee is Neo Goldwings Paradise, Co. Ltd. a CNMI corporation. The Board of Directors of the corporation are Hyun Myung In, president/treasurer and Kwidong Woo, vice president/secretary.

iii. The proposed lease was negotiated by Mr. Kwidong Woo.

iv. The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose of developing and operating a casino hotel and golf resort and related facilities.

   The term of the proposed lease agreement is 25 years, with an option to extend the lease for an additional 15 years.

   The proposed annual rental during the term is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the property.

v. A copy of the proposed lease agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; the 2nd floor of the Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.

vi. The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land at Piña, Tinian.

vii. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before November 24, 2008 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

Asia/World

Indian navy sinks suspected pirate 'mother' ship

NEW DELHI (AP)—The ship, operating off the coast of Oman in the lawless waters of the Gulf of Aden, was crewed by heavily armed men, some carrying rocket-propelled grenade launchers. Behind it were a pair of speedboats—the sort pirates often use when they launch attacks on merchant ships in these violent seas.

What followed, officials said Wednesday, was a rare victory in a sea war against Somalia-based piracy that has become increasingly more violent, and where the pirates are ever more bold.

A patrolling Indian navy frigate quickly identified the vessel as a "mother ship"—a mobile attack base used to take gangs of pirates and smaller speedboats into deep water—and ordered it to stop and be searched.

"They responded on the offensive and said that they would blow up the Indian naval ship," Commander Nirad Sinha, a navy press officer, told reporters in New Delhi. Then the pirates opened fire.

Navy officials wouldn't say how long the battle Tuesday lasted, but the frigate, the INS Tabar, is a 400-foot war machine, carrying cruise missiles, surface-to-air missiles and six-barreled 30 mm machine guns for close combat, according to the Web site GlobalSecurity.org.

By the time the battle was over, the mother ship had sunk—the Indian gunfire sparked fires and a series of onboard blasts, possibly due to exploding ammunition—and the speedboats were racing into the darkness.

One was later found abandoned. The other escaped. An unknown number of people died on the mother ship, a navy statement said.

It's not the first success. Last week, Indian navy commandos operating from a warship foiled a pirate attempt to hijack a ship in the Gulf of Aden. The navy said an armed helicopter with marine commandos prevented the pirates from boarding and hijacking the Indian merchant vessel.

Al-Qaida No. 2 insults Obama with racial epithet

CAIRO, Egypt (AP)—Al-Qaida's No. 2 leader used a racial epithet to insult Barack Obama in a message posted Wednesday, describing the president-elect in demeaning terms that imply he does the bidding of whites. The message appeared chiefly aimed at persuading Muslims and Arabs that Obama does not represent a change in U.S. policies.

Ayman al-Zawahri said in the message, which appeared on militant Web sites, that Obama is "the direct opposite of honorable black Americans" like Malcolm X, the 1960s African-American rights leader.

In al-Qaida's first response to Obama's victory, al-Zawahri also called the president-elect—along with secretaries of state Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice—"house Negroes."

Speaking in Arabic, al-Zawahri uses the term "abeed al-beit," which literally translates as "house slaves." But al-Qaida supplied English subtitles of his speech that included the translation as "house Negroes."

The message also includes old footage of speeches by Malcolm X in which he explains the term, saying black slaves who worked in their white masters' house were more servile than those who worked in the fields. Malcolm X used the term to criticize black leaders he accused of not standing up to whites.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Sean McCormack said the latest message was just "more despicable comments from a terrorist."

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN, MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 664-3500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
EMERGENCY POWER UPGRADES
AIP PROJECT NO. 3-69-0002-57
DESIGN-BUILD SERVICES

AMENDED REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for the Design and Construction of the Saipan International Airport Emergency Power Upgrade on the Island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. It is the intent of CPA to expedite complete construction of this project.

A CD-Rom containing the scope of work and proposal package will be available on Wednesday, November 5, 2008 at the Office of the Acting Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS ($100.00)** for each CD-Rom. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held for this project at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 12, 2008, at the CPA Airport Conference Room. Please be advised that attendance to this pre-proposal conference is mandatory. All questions prior to the pre-proposal conference must be submitted in writing to Mr. Ignacio L. Perez, Acting Executive Director or faxed to (670) 234-5962, no later than 4:30 p.m., Monday, November 10, 2008.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for the Saipan International Airport Emergency Power Upgrade, Design/Build Services". One original and four (4) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than **4:30 P.M. LOCAL TIME, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2008,** to the Office of the Acting Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport.

The offerer shall submit with their proposal the following:

1. Letter of interest
2. Project Approach (detailing how the work will be accomplished inclusive of layout and one line diagram.)
3. D-B Construction Team
4. Related past project performance (include commendations or certifications if available)
5. Design and Construction Timeline
6. Available resources to accomplish the project
7. Cost proposal (in itemized SOW format)
8. Valid CNMI Business License

Proposers shall also submit a separate statement of qualifications which should include résumés and experience of personnel that will be directly in charge of the project. Note that either party of the design consultant/contractor team that submits a proposal cannot submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, only subcontractors may be included in multiple proposals by different design/build teams.

Project approach, timeline and cost must be within the parameters of the established Statement of Work (SOW). Any deviation from the SOW, a proposal based on reduced SOW or a proposal that exceeded what is required by the SOW, will be grounds for immediate disqualification of the offeror's proposal package.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations Section 3.6. Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1.	Total cost for design and construction	30%
2.	Qualifications of the principal(s) and assigned staff	10%
3.	Experience of the firm on similar or related projects	15%
4.	D-B Construction time frame	25%
5.	Project Approach	20%

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of proposals. CPA reserves the right to hold the contract award for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of receipt of proposals. Award of a contract is contingent upon prior approval from FAA.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a proposal bond issued by a U.S. Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than five percent (5%) of the total proposal amount. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All responses to this RFP shall take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project, including excise tax. Proposers shall also include performance and payment bonds premium (payment and performance issued by a U.S. treasury listed bonding company) required for this project. Performance bond shall be extended to cover the warranty period of the project.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ MR. IGNACIO L. PEREZ
Acting Executive Director

Date: November 11, 2008

WORLD BRIEFS

China to overhaul battered dairy industry

BEIJING (AP)—China's dairy industry—at the center of the country's latest food safety scandal—will be overhauled to improve every step from cow breeding to milk sales, the government said. The major shake-up will cover all aspects of the dairy supply chain, including production, purchase, processing and sales within the next year, the official Xinhua News Agency reported Thursday. "The crisis has put China's dairy industry in peril and exposed major problems existing in the quality control and supervision of the industry," an official with the National Development and Reform Commission, China's top economic planning body, was quoted as saying by Xinhua. Details posted on the Web site of the State Council, China's Cabinet, said the Health Ministry would revise the quality and safety standards of dairy products, while the Agriculture Ministry would draft examination standards to check for melamine and other toxins in animal feed. A tracking system would also be established to record the flow and delivery of dairy products.

SKorea seeks to stop propaganda leaflets to NKorea

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korean officials urged activists Wednesday to refrain from sending propaganda leaflets over the border into North Korea. But activists vowed to keep sending the flyers critical of North Korean leader Kim Jong Il into the North in huge balloons, despite the political tension the leaflets are causing between the two Koreas. The two Koreas agreed in 2004 to end decades of propaganda warfare across the Demilitarized Zone dividing the neighbors. North Korea, where leader Kim is the subject of a personality cult, accuses the South of violating the 2004 pact by allowing the leaflets, and has threatened to restrict traffic through the border starting next month in retaliation. The South Korean government says it cannot stop activists and defectors from North Korea from sending the leaflets, citing freedom of speech. But officials urged activists to stop the leafletting campaigns, telling them they have a "negative impact on inter-Korean relations," according to Unification Ministry spokesman Kim Ho-nyeon.

IAEA: Syrian site could have been nuclear reactor

VIENNA, Austria (AP)—The U.N. nuclear watchdog agency said Wednesday that a Syrian site bombed by Israel in 2007 had the characteristics of a nuclear reactor. It also admitted that its investigation into Iran's alleged nuclear weapons program is deadlocked.

The conclusions were contained in two confidential reports from the International Atomic Energy Agency that were obtained by The Associated Press. The documents were being shared with the 35 nations on the IAEA's board. The report on Iran—which also went to the U.N. Security Council—cautioned that Tehran's stonewalling meant the IAEA could not "provide credible assurances about the absence of undeclared nuclear material and activities." And it noted that the Islamic Republic continued to expand uranium enrichment, an activity that can make both nuclear fuel or fissile warhead material. While that conclusion was expected, it was a formal confirmation of Iran's refusal to heed Security Council demands to freeze such activities, despite three sets of sanctions meant to force an enrichment stop.

Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Driver loses control after sneeze, hits river

BOSTON (AP)—An untimely sneeze nearly cost Andrew Hanson his life. The 42—year—old Weymouth man told authorities that a sneeze caused him to lose control of his pickup on Soldiers Field Road and plunge into Boston's Charles River on Tuesday. Hanson was able to wade to shore after escaping from the truck, which was partially submerged in 4 feet of water. He was not seriously injured but was taken to a hospital as a precaution. Lawrence Callahan of the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation said Hanson told him that after he sneezed, "the next thing he knew he was in the river."

Iowa zoo recaptures flamingo that flew the coop

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)—An Iowa zoo has recaptured a flamingo that flew over a Des Moines neighborhood, a golf course and the entire zoo during a 7-hour freedom flight. Blank Park Zoo workers clipped the adult Chilean flamingo's wings a second time after it was recaptured. The zoo's flamingos usually don't fly because their wings have been clipped. But zoo spokesman Terry Rich says the birds can molt and regrow those feathers, enabling them to fly.

Irate man wields bat to liberate his lost cat

DALLAS (AP)—Police are looking for an irate pet lover so intent on liberating his lost cat that he wielded a bat to fend off animal shelter employees. Dallas Animal Shelter manager Kent Robertson said the man found his missing gray and blue shorthaired cat at the shelter, where it had been brought by someone who thought it was a stray. He blew his stack when told he had to pay a $132 fee to take his cat. Police say the man returned Monday, loaded his cat into a carrier without paying the fee, and threatened the staff with the baseball bat. No one was injured. Most people thank shelter workers. Says Robertson: "This was pretty extreme." The man could be charged with aggravated robbery and aggravated assault. Police Senior Cpl. Kevin Janse says police have a clue—the man signed the shelter guest book before fleeing.

Man nabbed after hitting girlfriend with sandwich

PORT ST. LUCIE, Fla. (AP)—A man faces a domestic battery charge after allegedly hitting his girlfriend with a sandwich as she was driving on Interstate 95 on Friday. Police said the 19-year-old man became angry and hit the woman in the arm and face with a sandwich, knocking her glasses off. The victim nearly lost control of the car because she couldn't see the road and the man then allegedly ripped off the rear-view mirror and used it to shatter the windshield. The man was freed on $7,500 bail. Police haven't said what type of sandwich was involved.

Mass. woman's 1 cent debt paid in full

ATTLEBORO, Mass. (AP)—A 74-year-old blind woman's 1 cent debt to a Massachusetts city has been settled. People from across the country called Attleboro City Hall on Tuesday offering to pay the 1 cent balance owed by Eileen Wilbur for an overdue water and sewer bill. Antonio Viveiros, a former city councilor who does not know Wilbur, wrote a check for one penny. He says he was "irked" by the fact that the federal government can spend billions for bailouts, yet a senior citizen was threatened with a lien on her home over 1 cent. Wilbur's daughter first noticed the letter that warned of a lien and a $48 penalty if the overdue bill was not paid by Dec. 10. Mayor Kevin Dumas says the whole situation was blown out of proportion.

New constable allows friend to fire gun into air

SAN BENITO, Texas (AP)—A newly elected constable was questioned by sheriff's deputies after allowing a friend to fire his county-issued handgun into the air at a party. The constable, elected earlier this month, was at a friend's house late Saturday when Cameron County Sheriff's deputies responded to a call of shots fired. The constable and the homeowner appeared to be drunk and the friend admitted to firing the gun, according to the incident report. Neither man was charged.

Rapper gets 20 years after writing shooting song

DUBLIN, Ga. (AP)—He shot a man twice and felt so good about it, police said, a rapper wrote a song describing the shooting and calling out the victim by name. A judge sentenced 25-year-old Rico Todriquez Wright Monday to spend the next 20 years in prison after his victim mentioned the hip hop confession to police. Chad Blue, 28, told police he had known Wright before the September 2006 shooting, but that the men weren't friendly. He testified companions egged Wright on as he chased and shot his victim in the thigh and groin. Later, Blue told police he recognized Wright's voice on a CD, rapping "Chad Blue knows how I shoot." Wright was sentenced to 20 years for two counts of aggravated assault. He will spend another 20 years on probation.

Ind. inmates sneak through prison's ceiling to have sex

BLOOMFIELD, Ind. (AP)—Three male and three female inmates at a southern Indiana jail face charges that they devised a way to sneak between cell blocks to help pass their time behind bars by having sex.

The inmates figured out how to remove metal ceiling panels in the Greene County Jail and used the passageway more than a dozen times in September and October, according to court documents.

The men—ages 44, 38 and 17—and the women—ages 27, 26 and 21—crawled through the ceiling after midnight, having sexual encounters and drinking homemade alcohol that was found hidden in the male cell block, a police affidavit said.

One male inmate who was not charged said the female inmates would "hang-out, play cards or have sex with some of the male inmates" in their cell block, the affidavit said.

The inmates were able to find a security camera "blind spot" where they could remove ceiling tiles and create a passage between the cell blocks, Sheriff Terry Pierce said Tuesday.

The inmates used a shower drain as a tool to loosen security screws and the ceiling tiles were carefully replaced so they did not appear to be disturbed, Pierce said.

"We could not see it," he said.

The ceiling panels have since been secured, and Pierce said he was seeking funding to improve security at the jail, which was built in 1994 in the city about 25 miles southeast of Bloomington.

Pierce called the inmates' activities "embarrassing" to himself and his staff.

"If your facility has a flaw, if you house prisoners in it, they will show you. They will find it," he said. "We're going to have to find a way to have a better security system."

Prosecutors have filed felony escape charges against the six inmates, who were awaiting trial on a variety of charges. Five of the inmates remain in the Greene County Jail, while one has been transferred to the Monroe County Jail in Bloomington.

Pierce said the investigation is ongoing and other current or former jail inmates may be charged.

Science & Technology

Online strategies when holiday shopping

By CANDICE CHOI
AP BUSINESS WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Shopping online used to be about convenience. This holiday season, make it about saving money.

As worries about a recession spook spending, retailers are nudging shoppers to Web sites with promises of steep discounts. That's in contrast to past years, when ordering gifts online was touted as a way to save time and circumvent crowded malls.

"Everything's taking a back seat to price. Retailers are very conscious of what consumers are going through," said Ellen Davis, a spokeswoman for Shop.org, the online unit of the National Retail Federation.

Getting the most out of sales will mean knowing your options, however. So before you embark on your holiday shopping, keep these five points in mind.

1 Get In On The Deal

Dealnews.com publishes an annual Black Friday Guide, a roundup of price-checked deals, promotions and online specials. The guide covers categories including electronics, toys and apparel.

CyberMonday.com, a unit of Shop.org, aggregates online holiday sales from 600 companies. Shop.org gets a percentage of sales made through the site.

Another way to find out about deals? Try opening those pesky e-mails from retailers. They often include coupon codes and alerts to online-only deals, said Kurt Peters, publisher of Internet Retailer.

The trade publication's recent survey of 174 Web retailers, including those that operate stores, found nearly half were boosting the number of monthly e-mails they send compared to a year ago.

2 When & Where To Buy

Major retailers generally post all in-store holiday deals online as well, said Dan de Grandpre, founder and editor-in-chief of dealnews.com.

Some retailers even post Black Friday sales online a day early on Thanksgiving, he said. And the biggest discounts may be available yet sooner.

Once brick-and-mortar stores advertise their Black Friday deals in newspaper circulars in the week leading up to Thanksgiving, online-only stores such as Amazon.com immediately start trying to beat the offers, de Grandpre said.

For select doorbuster items on Black Friday, however, you may have to rise early and head to the mall with the rest of the pack.

If you still have shopping to do after Black Friday, many retailers have online sales on the "Cyber Monday" after Thanksgiving weekend.

Cyber Monday sales vary. Some may last a week, others may feature a different item or category each day for a week and yet others might have deep discounts on items for just a few hours. Last year, 28 percent of online retailers had partial day sales, according to Shop.org.

3 Online-Only Stores

Before buying gifts at major chains, check online retailers such as Overstock.com, Amazon.com and Buy.com, which often offer the same or similar products for cheaper.

Some lesser-known online retailers de Grandpre suggests: NewEgg.com, 6pm.com and SmartBargains.com.

If you find a deal at an online retailer you're not familiar with, de Grandpre suggests checking with the Better Business Bureau at bbb.org. The group rates businesses based on the volume of customer complaints it gets and how quickly businesses respond to them.

If a business has an "unsatisfactory" rating, it may be your cue to click away.

Other sites to check up on retailers include bizrate.com and resellerratings.com.

A point to keep in mind when buying online is to stick to your shopping list. Many online retailers try go for the up-sell at check out, suggesting other items or package deals.

4 Taxes

Online retailers collect sales taxes only from customers in states where they have a physical presence, whether it's a store, their headquarters or a warehouse.

If there's no physical presence in your state, then a sales tax isn't collected. The easiest way to find out if you'll be taxed is to put items in your basket and get a price tally before checking out.

The savings on sales taxes can be considerable on big-ticket items, so many consumers chose to go online for certain purchases, according to Craig Shearman, with the National Retail Federation. The group supports federal regulation that would require all merchants to collect sales taxes, regardless of whether they have a physical presence in a state.

5 Shipping & Wrapping Costs

Most retailers plan to offer shipping deals this season, but the terms of the deals may differ from last year, according to Shop.org. One-fifth of retailers surveyed say they're passing higher shipping costs on to customers by requiring them to spend more to qualify for free shipping. Another 11 percent plan to cut back on unconditional free shipping.

That means mailing gifts yourself may be cheaper. If your package is particularly heavy, though, a flat shipping rate may benefit you. If a company offers a gift-wrapping option, that could save a few dollars too.

Carefully weighing shipping and wrapping costs "save $5 or $10 with every gift," said Davis of Shop.org.

When the hard drive dies

By ROB PEGORARO
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

Q. Your advice about backups came too late for me. My hard drive died, and I would like to get back some of the files on it, but I don't know anything about data-recovery services.

A. Data-recovery service is the computing world's equivalent of brain surgery—in terms of the stakes involved, the difficulty of the work and the cost of the procedure.

If you're very lucky, a local computer shop can pluck data off a crashed hard drive using just software tools. Last year, for example, I paid about $170 for this work.

More often, however, a data-recovery firm will have to take apart the drive to try to rescue its contents. This can cost more than a new computer. For example, Kroll Ontrack (ontrackdatarecovery.com) says it charges $800 to $1,400 for a typical recovery job. At DriveSavers (drivesavers.com), that type of repair typically costs $1,500.

Some drives suffer too much injury—either from the initial crash or from unsuccessful software fixes that exacerbate the damage—to permit any data recovery. Kroll Ontrack estimated that 20 percent of the drives it sees are hopeless, and DriveSavers said it must give up more than 10 percent of the time. That's why you should back up your files early and often.

■ ■ ■

Q. Why are the videos shot with my miniDV camcorder so big—13 gigabytes for an hour of video—compared with DVD movies?

A. The mid-1990s DV (digital video) standard didn't benefit from subsequent advances in video-compression technology that allow DVD and newer formats to shrink video clips.

To keep your drive from being overrun, save your movies in a more efficient format after editing them. For example, in Apple's iMovie '08, go to the Share menu and choose "Export Movie..."

Life & Style

Beyonce coming a bit more 'Fierce'

By NEKESA MUMBI MOODY
AP MUSIC WRITER

AP
Singer Beyonce Knowles hosts Gotham Magazine's Gala at Espace, Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2008, in New York.

NEW YORK (AP)—With a new album and two movies on the horizon, it appears the Season of Beyonce has begun.

Then again, one could argue that it's always Beyonce season.

Two years ago, it was all about the release of her second CD, "B'Day" and her starring role in the movie "Dreamgirls." Last year, her "Irreplaceable" was up for a top Grammy and she was on a world tour. And this year, besides a high-profile Grammy performance with Tina Turner, her hush-hush marriage to Jay-Z and appearances on hit remixes with Justin Timberlake and Usher generated headlines.

Though it may have been hard to tell, she actually did take a yearlong hiatus from recording music.

"I think I did need to take a break. I honestly did," she says, sitting on a sleek chair in an even sleeker hotel room during a recent interview. "I needed to take a break even personally so I could relax and appreciate all the things that I worked for."

Of course, Beyonce being Beyonce, her hiatus wasn't a complete vacation: She spent part of that "break" filming her upcoming movie, "Cadillac Records," in which she peels off the glamour to play R&B great Etta James during her drug-addled years.

Beyonce says not only did the role propel an acting breakthrough, it provided a musical one, too.

"I felt like after I played Etta James, and I sang these beautiful, emotional, deep, honest songs, I really learned a lot about myself. And I wanted to make classic music ... to grow and make that transition into legendary," she says.

Her bid at musical immortality comes this week with the release of "I AM ... SASHA FIERCE," her third solo CD, something of a departure from the frenetic funk of her previous two multiplatinum albums, "Dangerously in Love" and "B'Day."

While the new album certainly has its share of club anthems—one of its first singles is the bouncy jam "Single Ladies (Put A Ring On It)"—it is a double-CD with two personalities. The upbeat side is dubbed "SASHA FIERCE" (the namesake of her onstage, divalicious alter ego); the "I AM ..." portion is a ballad-centric pop album that features Beyonce at what her father and manager, Matthew Knowles, calls her most revealing.

"She shows more vulnerability on this record," says Knowles, who with Beyonce acts as executive producer. "That's a natural growth of her age and life experiences."

Though Beyonce is an established veteran after more than a decade in the spotlight (she made her debut along with the rest of the members of Destiny's Child in 1997), the 27-year-old has always been among the more guarded celebrities, staying on message about her music and movies while giving up little about her life outside the spotlight.

She still refuses to divulge much about her private life (other than confirming her marriage to Jay-Z—a breakthrough itself—she declined to speak much about the relationship). But she seems more at ease during interviews, more willing to let the Sasha side of her personality come through. The day after the election of Barack Obama, the giddy singer was in good spirits, wearing a suit in honor of the candidate she supported and laughing often as she talked about politics, music, and her future.

"I'm learning the importance of balance, which is one of the biggest (concerns) of all working women—when is it enough, when is it time to relax, and to take care of yourself? But I'm very proud of my progress," she adds with a laugh, "and I'm growing."

Songwriter Makeba Riddick, who co-wrote songs on "B'Day" and was part of a team of writers on the ballad "Ave Maria" with Beyonce, says that growth was apparent during the creation of "I AM ... SASHA FIERCE."

"The energy, it was different," says Riddick. "'B'Day' was a bunch of dance tracks and it was a lot of fun records, party records, and this is more reflective and personal. (She's) just showing a more mature side of her and music."

That's partly because of where her head was at after filming "Cadillac Records," which she executive produced. The movie, which also stars Oscar-winner Adrian Brody and Jeffrey Wright, documents the heyday of the Chess R&B label.

To depict James in the harrowing throes of addiction, Beyonce spent time at a Brooklyn rehab center in to better understand something she says she's never done: drugs. The experience, she said, took its toll.

"I don't go around focusing on negative things, so it was really a difficult thing for me to be in that much pain for that amount of time, crying all day, all night, even when I left I was in a funk. I was a different person."

Beyonce also takes a dramatic turn in the upcoming thriller "Obsessed," due out next year.

"She's played two roles that really have helped change and mold her growth," says her father.

To that end, Beyonce appears to be taking a more streamlined approach to her music.

"I just wanted to do things that makes people feel, make people think. Even with the uptempos, with 'Sasha Fierce,' I wanted it to be simple and classic."

Suri Cruise tops Forbes.com list of 'Hottest Tots'

NEW YORK (AP)—Suri Cruise is the most popular kid on the playground. The 2-year-old daughter of Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes tops Forbes.com's second annual list of "Hollywood's 10 Hottest Tots."

Forbes.com, which ranked celebrity children 5 years old and younger based on media attention and their parents' popularity, said Suri—known for her stylish outfits and haircut—popped up in more news articles and blogs than her peers.

Three of Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt's six children made the list: Shiloh Jolie-Pitt, 2, is in second place after coming in first last year; Zahara Jolie-Pitt, 3, is in third place; and Pax Jolie-Pitt, 4, is fourth on the list.

"Though not quite the tabloid stars his sisters Zahara and Shiloh are, his recognizable mug and A-list parents give him space in the top five," said Forbes.com of Pax.

AP

In this Nov. 4, 2007 file photo, actress Katie Holmes joins her husband Tom Cruise as he holds their daughter Suri after Holmes finished the New York City Marathon in New York.

Rounding out the top 10: Sam Alexis Woods, daughter of Tiger Woods and his wife, Elin; Cruz Beckham, son of David and Victoria Beckham; Matilda Rose Ledger, daughter of Michelle Williams and the late Heath Ledger; David Banda, son of Madonna and Guy Ritchie; Sean Preston Federline, son of Britney Spears and Kevin Federline; and Sam Sheen, daughter of Denise Richards and Charlie Sheen.

Forbes.com looked at a year's worth of press clippings and Web presence for more than 50 Hollywood kids. The Web site then narrowed the list, recruiting the polling firm E-Poll Market Research to get awareness scores for the children and consumer appeal rankings for their celebrity parents.

Winona Ryder briefly hospitalized in UK

LONDON (AP)—Winona Ryder was briefly hospitalized after falling ill on a flight to London's Heathrow Airport on Wednesday, her publicist said. Mara Buxbaum said the 37-year-old actress was taken to a west London hospital "as a precaution" and had been released.

Ryder

"She's fine now," Buxbaum said. She declined to go into details of Ryder's illness.

British Airways said a flight from Los Angeles to Heathrow requested priority landing after a female passenger "required medical attention" and was taken to a local hospital for treatment.

"Our cabin crew looked after the female passenger as much as they could onboard and our passenger services staff also accompanied her to the local hospital," the statement said. "We wish her well."

Ryder, who began her film career as a teenager in 1986, earned back-to-back Oscar nominations in the 1990s for "Little Women" and the "The Age of Innocence." She's also known for youthful roles in films including "Heathers," "Edward Scissorhands" and "Girl, Interrupted". She has mostly stayed out of the headlines after her 2002 conviction for stealing several thousand dollars worth of merchandise from a Saks Fifth Avenue store in Beverly Hills, Calif

Ryder had prescription drugs in her possession when she was arrested—but a drug charge was dropped after a doctor said he had prescribed the medication. A probation report stemming from the shoplifting incident showed that Ryder had dozens of prescriptions filled by 20 doctors over three years.

Congratulations

On November 04, 2008, the people of the Commonwealth have spoken and I respectfully honor their decision. As a candidate from Tinian, I knew that I came into this race as an underdog; nevertheless, I had an agenda that was far greater than that of losing an election or any election for that matter. It was an agenda of change and prosperity for the CNMI. We may have lost the election, but our efforts were not in vain. We still have a lot of work ahead of us; and are obligated to do one thing and one thing only: to work together for the common good of our citizens and the future of this great Commonwealth.

I wish to congratulate Congressman-Elect Gregorio C. Sablan "Kilili" in his victory as the first Delegate to the U.S. Congress. Congratulation Congressman Sablan. We have waited over thirty years for representation in the hall of congress, and it has finally come. You ran an excellent campaign and I know you will do an excellent job for our Commonwealth. It is now time to put politics aside, and to stand behind Congressman Sablan "Kilili" as one people, with one common cause: to bring prosperity and hope to the CNMI. I urge Kilili to work with the Democratic majority in the U.S. Congress to restore our hopes that have been shattered by the past two administrations. I also urge our elected leaders to put aside partisan politics and listen to the cries of our people. Our people have endured enough. There are serious challenges ahead of us and the next two years should not be like the last three.

Though, we did not win the election, I am honored for the support of the people who voted for me. Let me say that on behalf of my wife and children, I am truly grateful, and we cannot thank you all enough for your support. Thank you and God bless us all.

May this Thanksgiving Season bring Happiness to Us All.

— David M. Cing

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Twilight

Friday		4:25	7:30	10:00
Saturday	1:30	4:25	7:30	10:00
Sunday	1:30	4:25	7:30	
Mon and Tues		4:25	7:30	
Wednesday		4:25	7:30	10:00
Thursday	1:30	4:25	7:30	10:00

Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson
Drama, Thriller • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

Bella Swan has always been a little bit different, never caring about fitting in with the trendy girls at her Phoenix high school. When her mother re-marries and sends Bella to live with her father in the rainy little town of Forks, Washington, she doesn't expect much of anything to change. Then she meets the mysterious and dazzlingly beautiful Edward Cullen, a boy unlike any she's ever met. Edward is a vampire, but he doesn't have fangs and his family is unique in that they choose not to drink human blood.

Bolt

Friday		4:15	7:00	9:30
Saturday	1:10	4:15	7:00	9:30
Sunday	1:10	4:15	7:00	
Mon and Tues		4:15	7:00	
Wednesday		4:15	7:00	9:30
Thursday	1:10	4:15	7:00	9:30

John Travolta, Miley Cyrus
Action, Animated • Rated PG

Synopsis

For super-dog Bolt, every day is filled with adventure, danger and intrigue--at least until the cameras stop rolling. When the star of a hit TV show is accidentally shipped from his Hollywood soundstage to New York City, he begins his biggest adventure yet--a cross-country journey through the real world to get back to his owner and co-star, Penny.

★ ★ ★

Quantum of Solace

Friday		4:20	7:05	9:35
Saturday	1:05	4:20	7:05	9:35
Sunday	1:05	4:20	7:05	
Mon and Tues		4:20	7:05	
Wednesday		4:20	7:05	9:35
Thursday	1:05	4:20	7:05	9:35

Daniel Craig, Judi Dench
Action, Adventure • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

Betrayed by Vesper, the woman he loved, 007 fights the urge to make his latest mission personal. Pursuing his determination to uncover the truth, James Bond and M interrogate Mr. White who reveals the organization which blackmailed Vesper is far more complex and dangerous than anyone had imagined. Forensic intelligence links an Mi6 traitor to a bank account in Haiti where a case of mistaken identity introduces Bond to the beautiful but feisty Camille, a woman who has her own vendetta.

Madagascar Escape 2 Africa

Friday		4:10	7:25	9:40
Saturday	1:20	4:10	7:25	9:40
Sunday	1:20	4:10	7:25	
Mon and Tues		4:10	7:25	
Wednesday		4:10	7:25	9:40
Thursday	1:20	4:10	7:25	9:40

Ben Stiller, Chris Rock
Comedy, Animated • Rated PG

Role Models

Friday		4:30	7:15	9:55
Saturday	1:25	4:30	7:15	9:55
Sunday	1:25	4:30	7:15	
Mon and Tues		4:30	7:15	
Wednesday		4:30	7:15	9:55
Thursday	1:25	4:30	7:15	9:55

Seann William Scott, Paul Rudd
Comedy, Drama • Rated R

High School Musical 3

Friday		4:00	7:10	9:45
Saturday	1:15	4:00	7:10	9:45
Sunday	1:15	4:00	7:10	
Mon and Tues		4:00	7:10	
Wednesday		4:00	7:10	9:45
Thursday	1:15	4:00	7:10	9:45

Zac Efron, Ashley Tisdale
Musical • Rated G

Eagle Eye

Friday		4:05	7:20	9:50
Saturday	1:00	4:05	7:20	9:50
Sunday	1:00	4:05	7:20	
Mon and Tues		4:05	7:20	
Wednesday		4:05	7:20	9:50
Thursday	1:00	4:05	7:20	9:50

Shia LaBeouf, Michelle Monaghan
Drama • Rated PG 13

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Boy acting like a 'dummy' embarrasses his friend

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DearAbby

DEAR ABBY: I don't want to make my friend "Ryan" mad, but he does something that makes me feel weird. When we go to the mall to hang out, he always wants to go to the big stores. You know those dummies on display wearing clothes? Well, Ryan likes to feel them up! He thinks it's cool to go up to a female dummy and feel her breasts.

When he does it, he giggles. People stare and I have to leave. I told Ryan I don't like it. He says, "Whatever ..."

Ryan is my best friend. Is what he does natural for a 13-year-old? I like looking at real girls on the beach. He says that's boring, and he'd rather feel up the store dummies. What's up with that? What should I do?

BILLY IN GALVESTON

DEAR BILLY: Your friend is very immature. He is both attracted to girls and afraid of rejection. That is why he is acting out with department store mannequins who cannot tell him, "Stop that, you fool. Get away from me!"

You are right to leave when he creates a scene like that. You don't want other people to get the idea that you get your kicks that way, too, do you?

DEAR ABBY: Our mom had a major cow when she found out that my sister and I are wearing thong underwear. We buy and wash our own clothes, so Mom didn't realize it until the other day when she walked in on us while we were getting dressed.

Well, Mom says it's "sinful," if you can believe that, and she has forbidden us from wearing them. But Abby, it's what all the girls wear these days, so if we're sinners, so is everyone else. We'll be the only girls in the locker room not wearing thongs, and we'll look really stupid. Do you see anything wrong with thong underwear?

SAN DIEGO SINNER?

DEAR SINNER?: No, evil is in the eye of the beholder. But frankly, I have never understood the thong underwear fad. For many decades women have struggled to keep their panties from bunching up exactly where the thong is designed to go—and the feeling is really uncomfortable.

Readers, I'm taking a poll on this: Thongs "up" or thongs "down"? What do you think?

DEAR ABBY: Because I arrived late to an opera performance, I was forced to sit in the designated section for latecomers. Seated next to me was an attractive young lady with whom I had a pleasant conversation as we watched the televised first act. Afterward, of course, we took our assigned seats.

It is difficult for some of us art and opera lovers to find compatible friends with shared interests. My question is, do genteel younger women consider it foolishly ill-mannered, disturbing or offensive to be impetuously invited by an older, single gentleman (age 47) for an after-performance dinner or cocktail?

GIL IN HOUSTON

DEAR GIL: Heck, no! And stop calling yourself old. It ain't over 'til the fat lady sings.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Hugh Jackman crowned People's 'Sexiest Man Alive'

AP

Actor Hugh Jackman poses on the press line at "A Fine Romance" to benefit the Motion Picture and Television Fund in Culver City, Calif. on Saturday, Nov. 8, 2008.

NEW YORK (AP)—Hugh Jackman says wife Deborra-Lee Furness teased him after finding out he'd been named People magazine's "Sexiest Man Alive."

Recalling Furness' reaction, Jackman says: "God bless her, she said, 'I could've told them that years ago! And then she said, 'Obviously Brad (Pitt) wasn't available this year.' And I said, 'That was a joke, right?'"

The magazine's executive editor, Jess Cagle, said Wednesday on NBC's "Today" show that Jackman is a "surprising choice," but he'd been on the editors' minds "for a long time and it seemed like this was the year to do him."

Cagle pointed out that not only is Jackman's career at its peak, with the "X-Men" movies and his upcoming epic with Nicole Kidman "Australia," but he's "built like a tank."

Paris Hilton, Benji Madden split

AP

This Sunday, June 1, 2008 file photo shows Benji Madden, of Good Charlotte, and Paris Hilton at the MTV Movie Awards in Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Paris Hilton and her boyfriend of nine months, Benji Madden, have broken up. Hilton publicist Alanna McCarthy said Wednesday that the two "remain very good friends." She wouldn't say more.

Hilton and Madden have been photographed wearing rings with each other's initials. The 27-year-old socialite also joined her boyfriend when he toured with his rock band, Good Charlotte.

The 29-year-old Madden plays guitar, and his identical twin brother, Joel, is the lead singer.

Joel Madden has a daughter with Nicole Richie, Hilton's longtime friend and reality-TV co-star.

RI woman loses appeal in Nazi-era art lawsuit

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP)—A painting forcibly auctioned by Germany's Nazi government should remain with the estate of a late Jewish art dealer who lost it when his gallery was liquidated, a federal appeals court ruled Wednesday.

The ruling by the 1st U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Boston blocks an attempt by German baroness Maria-Luise Bissonnette to recoup the painting "Girl from the Sabine Mountains," which has been valued by appraisers between $67,000 and $94,000.

The painting is believed to be a work of Franz Xaver Winterhalter, a 19th-century artist famous for painting Queen Victoria, the czar of Russia and other European nobles.

Last year, a federal judge in Providence ordered Bissonnette to give the painting to the estate of Max Stern, who lost about 400 paintings and his family's Dusseldorf art gallery when the Nazis forced its closure in 1937. Bissonnette then sought to overturn the lower court's ruling and win the painting back.

In Wednesday's three-judge ruling, Judge Bruce Selya said the court was righting a wrong committed during one of history's bleakest periods, the Holocaust.

"The mills of justice grind slowly, but they grind exceedingly fine," Selya said.

Bissonnette, who lives in Providence, declined to comment on the ruling.

In 1935, Nazi officials warned Stern he had four weeks to regroup or dissolve the family business. He resisted until 1937, when he was denied a chance to transfer his business to a professor and closed the gallery.

"This decree is final," a Nazi official warned in a letter preserved by Stern's estate. It includes an ominous note to the Gestapo: "Stern is a Jew and holds German citizenship."

Bissonnette stepfather, Dr. Karl Heinrich Christian Wilharm, bought the painting at an art auction house in Cologne in 1937. Wilharm was a member of the Nazi Party and a medical officer for the Sturmabteilung, or SA, a Nazi paramilitary force.

After his gallery closed, Stern fled to England, eventually resettled in Canada and became a successful art dealer in Montreal. He died in 1987 and left his estate to three universities that are trying to reclaim Stern's paintings; most are still missing.

"Girl from the Sabine Mountains" is in Germany, but estate officials hope to eventually display it inside the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.

"I think this is a historic judgment," said Clarence Epstein, who works at Concordia University in Montreal and heads the restitution effort for Stern's estate.

Bissonnette moved to the United States and later inherited the painting from her parents. Stern's estate tracked down the missing artwork when Bissonnette attempted to sell it in 2005. After negotiations broke down, lawyers for Stern's estate filed a lawsuit seeking the painting's return.

The lawsuit argued that since Nazi authorities illegally auctioned Stern's artwork, any sales that followed were invalid.

In her appeal, Bissonnette argued the Stern estate waited too long to bring its lawsuit and that the lower court judge should have allowed Bissonnette more time for discovery.

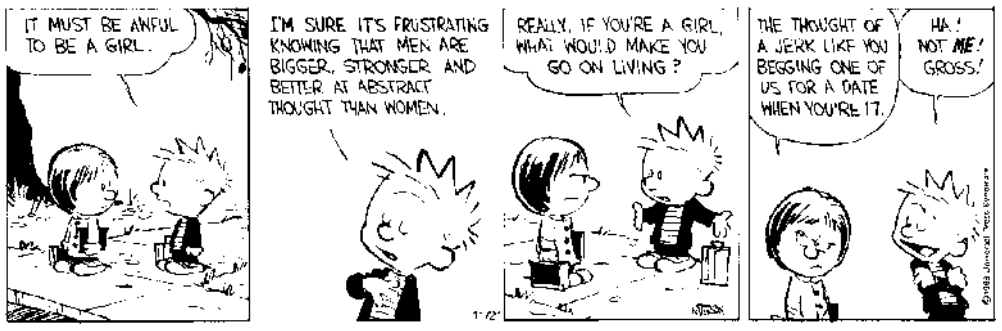
AP

This file photo provided by Concordia University shows an oil on canvas painting by Franz Xaver Winterhalter, (1806-1873), titled "Girl from the Sabine Mountains," obtained from a 1937 auction catalog via Concordia University.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

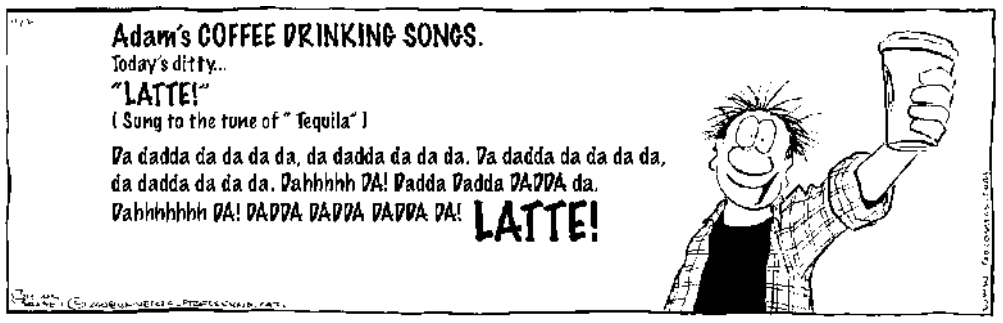

IT MUST BE AWFUL TO BE A GIRL.
I'M SURE IT'S FRUSTRATING KNOWING THAT MEN ARE BIGGER, STRONGER AND BETTER AT ABSTRACT THOUGHT THAN WOMEN.
REALLY. IF YOU'RE A GIRL, WHAT WOULD MAKE YOU GO ON LIVING?
THE THOUGHT OF A JERK LIKE YOU BEGGING ONE OF US FOR A DATE WHEN YOU'RE 17.
HA! NOT ME! GROSS!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

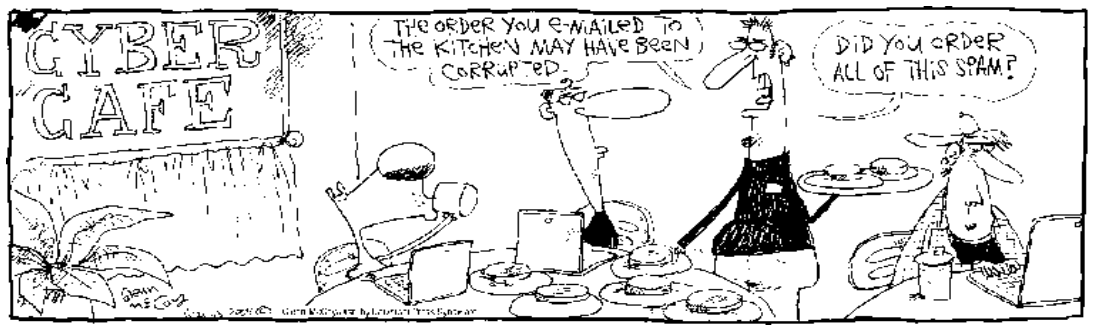
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


Adam's COFFEE DRINKING SONGS.
Today's ditty..
"LATTE!"
(Sung to the tune of " Tequila")
Da dadda da da da da, da dadda da da da. Da dadda da da da da,
da dadda da da da. Dahhhhh DA! Dadda Dadda DADDA da.
Dahhhhhhh DA! DADDA DADDA DADDA DA! LATTE!

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

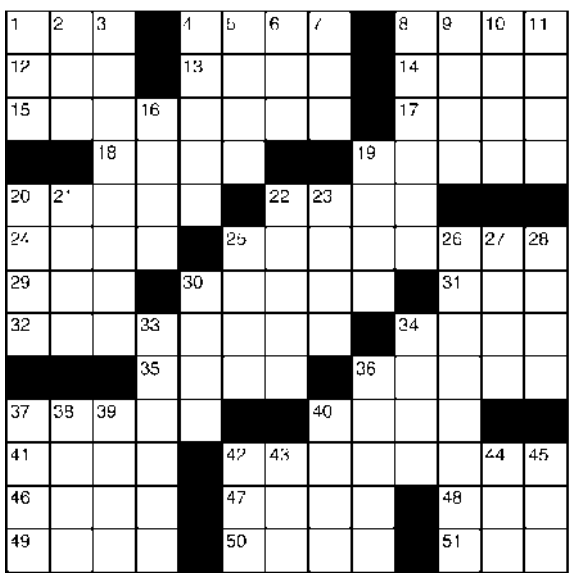
ACROSS
1 Tavern
4 Anything but that
8 Lens holders
12 "— Got a Secret"
13 Jam ingredient?
14 Impression
15 Cotton or tobacco, e.g.
17 Lancaster foe
18 Do surveillance on
19 Trumpet part
20 Point of view
22 Approached home plate, maybe
24 Millinery
25 No. 1 recording
29 St.
30 Gap
31 Sapporo sash
32 Service stripe
34 Wield scissors
35 Family member
36 Surmise
37 Incorrect
40 Blue, in a sense
41 "Listen!"
42 Refuse receptacle
46 Never again?
47 Stir-fry cookware
48 Time of anticipation
49 Luminary
50 Do as you're told
51 Storm center

DOWN
1 Pen name?
2 Actress Gardner
3 Paraphrases
4 Implied
5 Throw hard
6 Judge Lance
7 Bribe
8 Capital of Saudi Arabia
9 "American —"
10 Talk-show host Griffin
11 Benefit
16 — Christian Andersen
19 Workbench attachment
20 Persian sovereign
21 Stromboli outflow
22 Agent 86
23 Deficiency
25 Bridge
26 Apiary critter
27 Sacred wading bird
28 Gratuities
30 Too confident
33 Yearn
34 Stuff like that
36 Overly talkative
37 "— on first?"
38 Carry on
39 Killer whale
40 Croupier's tool
42 Seesaw quorum
43 Plagiarize
44 Wall climber
45 Wedding announcement word

Solution time: 25 mins.

C	R	I	B		E	M	J		S	P	A	M
A	I	D	F		R	A	N		G	A	V	E
N	O	E	L		A	R	C		A	G	E	D
S	I	A	L	L	S		I	A	M	L		
				J	O	E	S	I	X	P	A	C	K
R	E	_	A	X		F	C	E		R	U	N
O	M	A	R		D	F	N		O	_	T	O
A	M	Y		P	E	A		O	N	S	E	T
M	A	I	N	S	T	R	E	E	T			
		N	O	I	R		B	R	A	Z	E	N
L	L	G	O		O	P	S		R	U	L	E
O	P	U	S		I	P	F		I	I	K	S
W	I	P	E		T	O	N		O	U	S	T

Yesterday's answer 11-21



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute. touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Ken Griffey Jr., 39; Troy Aikman, 42; Bjork, 43; Goldie Hawn, 63

Happy Birthday: Serious problems need serious action. You should be able to come up with a workable solution to mend the past and position you well for the future. There is nothing out of your reach—only your indecisiveness or lack of confidence to move forward. Get started, press forward and enjoy the results of your hard work. Your numbers are 3, 10, 18, 20, 33, 35, 41

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Know what you are talking about before you enter the forum. Confidence and knowledge will help you excel. Once you have convinced others that your ideas are sound, you can succeed. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Raise standards by setting good examples. A door will open that can lead to greater travel, education and a change in your current direction. Listen to what others have to offer but don't give away too much. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Hold back when it comes to emotions and what's going down in your personal or social scene. The more you say, the more difficult it will be to avoid the fallout that comes with uncertainty. Don't give in to demands but avoid anger. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Get serious about your home and family. Change your residence or make adjustments or purchases that will add to your comfort zone. A partnership you are in will flourish if you work toward a common goal. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Don't give in to pressure being put on you by someone who doesn't really know your situation. Book yourself in to your local spa or have some fun with friends but, most of all, keep things light. A little shopping will get you into the spirit of giving. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Communication will be the key. You can clear up any concerns you may have by putting a halt to things you do not like. A special evening will result in meeting someone who captivates you or discovering something new about the person you are with. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): It's important to stay on top of things, especially in your personal life. Overspending is apparent, especially if you are trying to please someone you love. If someone is pressuring you, stop him or her quickly. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): A love relationship you are in will be encouraging and will lead to more confidence in your everyday decisions. Discuss your plans with colleagues. Don't hesitate to make some critical changes at home. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Be prepared to face opposition and possible disappointment if you aren't well versed regarding what you want and how you can achieve it. By showing no signs of concern, you can move quickly once you get the approval you need. ✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Start to tie up business that needs to be complete before year's end. A commitment or promise you make to someone will help to push through a deal you've been working on. Love is opening up to new levels. ✪✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Look into your future by researching your options. A new skill will help you begin the new year on the right foot. Check out the possibilities and you will not be disappointed with your prospects for the future. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Worthy causes will introduce you to a host of interesting people who will continue to offer you something in return in the new year. Don't be afraid to speak up about your plans, especially to those who have an understanding of things you need. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are a strong contender and give your all to everything you do. You are a hard worker and a dedicated promoter of your beliefs.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun,* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations*

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

				5	7			
		8	2			1		
4	5			6			2	
7							8	
		1				3		
	8							7
	6			4			1	2
		4			1	8		
		7	3					

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 11/21

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

2	5	7	9	4	3	8	1	6
9	4	6	1	2	8	7	5	3
3	8	1	6	7	5	9	4	2
1	3	8	7	5	2	4	6	9
6	2	9	8	1	4	5	3	7
5	7	4	3	9	6	2	8	1
7	6	3	5	8	9	1	2	4
4	9	5	2	3	1	6	7	8
8	1	2	4	6	7	3	9	5

Difficulty Level ★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backwards. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

PEEKY-TOE SHOES — Solution: 6 letters

A	P	P	E	A	L	E	L	K	C	U	B	A	S	E
Y	D	K	A	T	T	F	S	F	T	R	F	T	R	O
N	T	J	C	T	E	T	F	A	A	C	R	A	Z	E
O	A	T	U	A	T	M	R	T	N	T	H	G	I	L
I	T	Y	E	S	B	E	P	A	I	D	H	E	M	H
S	T	P	(T)	R	T	G	R	E	C	F	A	E	A	S
A	I	M	O	(E)	P	A	N	N	R	T	T	L	R	T
C	R	A	F	T	(E)	D	B	I	Y	A	I	U	S	U
C	E	V	N	P	T	(F)	U	L	L	X	T	V	O	D
O	L	L	P	G	S	S	S	L	E	S	E	U	E	S
F	A	A	S	L	S	T	I	T	C	H	E	S	R	H
F	C	M	S	O	E	C	N	L	T	N	I	R	P	E
I	I	R	E	S	Z	G	E	S	E	G	D	E	W	E
C	N	O	R	S	I	S	S	E	A	S	O	N	A	L
E	G	F	D	Y	S	C	S	R	E	P	P	I	L	S

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Adjustable, Appeal, Appearance, Attire, Attractive, Base, Buckle, Business, Classic, Crafted, Craze, Dress, Feet, Formal, Glossy, Heel, Heels, Lacing, Leather, Left, Light, Pair, Metallic, Occasion, Office, Outfit, Pattern, Pretty, Print, Retro, Sandals, Seasonal, Sexy, Size, Slingback, Slippers, Stop, Stitches, Studs, Temperature, Vamp, Wedges

Yesterday's Answer: Monitor

CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$25
• 5-Liner	$35
• 3-Liner with picture	$45
• 5-Liner with picture	$55

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday And Sunday Issues:

- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on either Sunday or Monday issues.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

HOUSE FOR RENT

Rapuagao
- Concrete House
- Semi-furnished
- 3 bedroom
- 1 bath

Upper Dan Dan
- Concrete House
- Semi-furnished
- 2 bedroom
- 1 bath

Available Anytime
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Leaving Island Garage Sale

When: Saturday, Nov 22, 2008
Time: 7:00am-12:30pm
Where: Fina Sisu-Old POI housing across NMC Gym.

Items: TV, DVD Player, Speakers and Amp, New Air Con 8000BTU GE, New Water Pump, Bathroom faucet, Generator, BBQ Grill, Ice Chest, Bicycles, Rims, Tires, New comp. hose, Trikke, Baby items, Crib Mattress, Playpens, Stroller, Shoes, Clothes, New Soccer Shoes, Fossil watch and many more misc. items.

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233-5641
Open 7 Day a Week 9:00 AM-9:00 PM

LOST PASSPORT
Name: Guo, Ya Di
Passport No: G04199035
Type of Passport: China
Date of Birth: Nov 13, 1976
If found, please call
789-2911 - Li Guo Kin.

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Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, FF, AC, 24-hr pwr./water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. MIHA applicants accepted. Right behind NMC campus. Special rates for NMC faculty/students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

LOST PASSPORT
Name : Shun Hong
D.O.B : March 17, 1962
Passport No. : 140870081
Contact No. : 235-6242

LOST PASSPORT
Name : Zaiwan Jin
D.O.B : June 26, 1969
Passport No. : P.2067563
Contact No. : 235-6242

LOST PASSPORT
Name : Zhe Jin
D.O.B : March 6, 1959
Passport No. : 140374725
Contact No. : 235-6242

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

LIFE LIFE LIFE LIFE
LIFE LIFE LIFE LIFE
LIFE LIFE LIFE LIFE
LIFE LIFE LIFE LIFE
LIFE LIFE LIFE LIFE

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Find today's solution in this section

SUPERIOR COURT
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, U.S.A.
Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice
P.O. BOX 500307, SAIPAN, MP 96950-0307

Job Vacancy Announcement

CNMI Superior Court, Family Court Division is looking for an energetic and dynamic individual to fill the position of:

Family Court Coordinator

Minimum Requirements: Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with major course work in Criminal Justice, Social Work, Psychology, or a related field and three year experience.

Minimum Qualification: Excellent Written/Verbal Communication Skills and Computer Proficiency in Microsoft Office Program

Interested applicants must submit their resume with a cover letter and a copy of diploma on or before Monday, December 1, 2008. Documents may be dropped off at the following locations:

Saipan	Tinian	Rota
Superior Court	Superior Court	Superior Court
Family Court Division	Clerk of Court	Clerk of Court
Susupe, Saipan	San Jose, Tinian	Sinapalo, Rota

For more information, please contact Patrick V. Diaz, Family Court Manager at (670) 236-9781.

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Fax: (671) 646-6293
Email: mawfguam@ite.net
www.wish.org
Office Hours: 8:30am to 5:30pm, M-F daily

Saipan Tribune

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235-NEWS

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6000 GL WATER TANK
USED ELECTRICAL MATERIALS:
DOUBLE THROW SWITCHES, ELECTRICAL PANELS, WIRES, SAFETY SWITCH, EMT/PVC PIPE, FLUORESCENT FIXTURES, ETC @ VERY, VERY LOW PRICE.
CALL: KANG CORPORATION 288-9366/483-9365/483-9364/ 483-9369 ASK FOR GARY, ROBERT OR MR. KIM.

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Are you outgoing, bright and friendly?

You may have what it takes to join the team of Eye Care Assistants at Marianas Eye Institute!

No healthcare experience needed. We will train you!

Requirements:

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- High school diploma with a GPA of 3.3 or higher
- Police Clearance
- Previous work experience
- Computer Skills
- Credit Check
- Bright and friendly
- Letter of recommendation from previous employer

Benefits:

- Competitive salary
- Health Insurance
- Life Insurance
- Dental Insurance
- Retirement Plan
- Productivity Bonuses
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- Generous Leave Benefits
- Paid Holidays

Great work environment, great benefits!

Apply in person at...

Marianas Eye Institute

"Where Technology Meets Talent"

Garapan, across from 13 Fisherman Monument
No Phone Calls Please

www.saipantribune.com

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education

Public School System

P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

Invitation For Bid
IFB # 09-004

The Public School System is soliciting competitive scaled bids for the purchase, delivery, installation, and assembly of **Computer Softwares and Printer Equipments, Supplies & Accessories for Saipan Southern High School (SSHS).** Detailed information on the Scope of Work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

All bids shall be in a sealed envelope face marked "IFB 09-004" containing one (1) original and three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, no later than **December 22, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.** Responsibility Determination documents shall be placed in a separate envelope marked "IFB 09-004 CONFIDENTIAL - Responsibility Determination" (one (1)-original and three (3)-copies). Any bid after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstance.

Technical questions shall be in writing and addressed to Mr. Juan D. Babauta, Acting Procurement & Supply Officer, via fax # (670) 664-3791. Alternatively, questions may be e-mailed to the following address: ***babautajd@pss.cnmi.mp.***

The Public School System reserves the right to award single or multiple awards or to reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, if to do so is in the best interest of the Public School System.

All bids shall become the property of the CNMI Public School System.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Juan D. Babauta
Acting, Procurement & Supply Officer

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education

Public School System

P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

Invitation For Bid
IFB # 09-003

The Public School System is soliciting competitive scaled bids for the purchase, delivery, installation, and assembly of **Desktop & Laptop Computer Systems and Accessories for Saipan Southern High School (SSHS).** Detailed information on the Scope of Work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

All bids shall be in a sealed envelope face marked "IFB 09-003" containing one (1) original and three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, no later than **December 15, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.** Responsibility Determination documents shall be placed in a separate envelope marked "IFB 09-003" CONFIDENTIAL - Responsibility Determination" (one (1)-original and three (3)-copies). Any bid after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstance.

Technical questions shall be in writing and addressed to Mr. Juan D. Babauta, Acting Procurement & Supply Officer, via fax # (670) 664-3791. Alternatively, questions may be e-mailed to the following address: ***babautajd@pss.cnmi.mp.***

The Public School System reserves the right to award single or multiple awards or single to reject any or all bids, in whole or in part.. if to do so is in the best interest of the Public School System.

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/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Juan D. Babauta
Acting, Procurement & Supply Officer

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education

Public School System

P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

Invitation For Bid
IFB # 09-002

The CNMI Public School System (PSS) is soliciting competitive sealed bids for **One (1) Year Campus Security Services for Marianas High School Campus and properties** on the island of Saipan located in the CNMI. Detailed information on the Scope of Work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3 d floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

All bids shall be in a sealed envelope face marked "IFB # 09-002" containing (1) original and three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than November 28, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. Responsibility Determination documents shall be placed in a separate envelope marked "IFB # 09-002, CONFIDENTIAL - Responsibility Determination" (1-original with 3-copies). Any bid after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstance.

Technical questions must be in writing and addressed to Mr. Juan D. Babauta, Acting Procurement & Supply Officer, via fax # (670) 664-3791. Alternatively, questions may be e-mailed to the following address: ***babautajd@pss.cnmi.mp.*** Technical questions, in order to ensure consideration, shall be submitted no later than ten (10) calendar days prior to the deadline for submission of bids.

General inquiries may be directed to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office at telephone number 237-3062.

The Public School System reserves the night to award single or multiple awards or to reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, if to do so is in the best interest of the Public School System.

All bids shall become the property of the Public School System.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Juan D. Babauta
Acting, Procurement & Supply Officer

Iverson scores 23 to push Pistons past Cavs

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. (AP)—The Allen Iverson-led Detroit Pistons have cooled off two of the NBA's best teams in less than a week.

Iverson had 23 points and Rasheed Wallace added 21, leading a fourth-quarter surge that gave the Pistons a 96-89 victory over the Cleveland Cavaliers on Wednesday night.

LeBron James had led Cleveland to an eight-game winning streak—the longest in the NBA—but he made just eight of 21 shots and scored 25 points.

The Pistons handed the Los Angeles Lakers their only defeat, beating them 106-95 Friday night on the road.

The Cavs (9-3) are a half-game ahead of the Pistons (8-3) in the Central Division.

It looked as if Cleveland was going to beat the Pistons the first time it saw them with Iverson, leading 24-16 after the first quarter and enjoying double-digit leads in the second and third quarters.

But Wallace made two free throws early in the fourth to put the Pistons ahead for the first time since midway through the first quarter.

After some lead changes, Wallace gave Detroit the lead for good with 3-pointers on consecutive possessions midway through the fourth.

A 19-6 run put the Pistons ahead 95-82.

Detroit's Richard Hamilton scored 15 points, reserve Rodney Stuckey and Tayshaun Prince each added nine points. Cleveland's Mo Williams scored 25 points, Zydrunas Ilgauskas had 13 points and Delonte West added 11.

AP

Detroit Pistons' Allen Iverson (1) goes to the basket past Cleveland Cavaliers' Mo Williams during the second half of an NBA basketball game Wednesday, Nov. 19, 2008, in Auburn Hills, Mich.

Nuggets 91, Spurs 81

In San Antonio, Chauncey Billups scored 22 points, leading Denver's victory over injury-riddled San Antonio.

Carmelo Anthony added 21 for the Nuggets, who have a 7-1 record since Billups arrived in the trade that sent Iverson to Detroit.

The result maintained Denver's co-leadership of the Northwest Division, and snapped the Spurs' three-game winning streak.

Jazz 105, Bucks 94

In Salt Lake City, Utah stayed undefeated at home and extended their mastery of Milwaukee to eight straight games.

C.J. Miles scored a season-high 25 points for the Jazz. and Carlos Boozer added 20 points and 11 rebounds before leaving because of a strained quadriceps.

Utah kept pace with Denver as leaders of the Northwest.

Raptors 101, Heat 95

In Miami, Toronto gave up most of a big lead but held on to beat a Miami team led by a stellar Dwayne Wade performance.

Andrea Bargnani scored a season-high 25 points and Jermaine O'Neal added 16 points and 17 rebounds for the Raptors.

Wade finished with season highs of 40 points and 11 assists, plus added a career-best five blocks. Since blocks became an official stat, the only other player to have a 40-10-5 effort was Alvan Adams of Phoenix in 1977, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

Toronto squandered much of a 17-point, late-third-quarter lead but ultimately scrambled to beat Miami for the second time in four days.

Trail Blazers 116, Bulls 74

In Portland, Oregon, the hosts built a 30-point lead in the first half and went on to trounce Chicago.

Greg Oden had 11 points, 10 rebounds and three blocks in his home debut. Oden, sidelined all of last season by a knee injury after being the top draft pick, entered the game to a standing ovation in the first quarter and dunked seconds later. The 7-footer had his third double-double in four games after missing six of Portland's first seven games this season because of foot injury.

Mavericks 96, Rockets 86

In Houston, Dallas notched its third straight win over its Texas rival Houston.

Jason Terry scored 31 points and Dirk Nowitzki added 24 points and 12 rebounds for the Mavericks.

Kings 105, Hornets 96

In New Orleans, John Salmons scored 29 points to lead Sacramento over New Orleans.

Bobby Jackson had all eight of his points in the final 5:10 for the Kings.

Hawks 91, Wizards 87

In Atlanta, Marvin Williams hit the go-ahead 3-pointer with 26 seconds left as Atlanta snapped a four-game losing streak by downing Washington.

Timberwolves 102, 76ers 96

In Minneapolis, Minnesota ended an eight-game losing skid by defeating Philadelphia.

Al Jefferson scored six of his 25 points in the final 3-1/2 to shore up the victory for the Timberwolves, who won for the first time since their opening game of the season.

Clippers 108, Thunder 88

In Oklahoma City, Los Angeles put together a 23-4 run during the third quarter to overwhelm struggling Oklahoma City.

Cuttino Mobley scored 12 of his season-high 23 points during that burst, and added a career-high seven steals.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB09-FW-025

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: DECEMBER 17, 2008 • TIME: 10:30 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF TWO (2) JET SKIS WITH DUAL TRAILER FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF LANDS & NATURAL RESOURCES, DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATION MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE BID IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

/s/ **IGNACIO T. DELA CRUZ**
SECRETARY OF DLNR

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
Director, P&S

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO WITHDRAW AND NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO WITHDRAW

Following a strategic review of our business in the region, notice is being given that MSIG Insurance (Singapore) Pte. Ltd. (formerly known as Aviva General Insurance Pte. Ltd.) intends to withdraw from the insurance business in the CNMI. An application for an Order permitting withdrawal from the insurance business in the CNMI has been filed with the Office of the Insurance Commissioner, Department of Commerce, CNMI.

All person interested in this matter should contact Rodney J. Rankin, Aon Insurance Micronesia (Saipan), Inc. as General Agent for MSIG Insurance (Singapore) Pte. Ltd., P.O. Box 502177, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950 or (670) 234-2811.

MSIG Insurance (Singapore) Pte. Ltd.

NFL BRIEFS

Pacman reinstated, but can't return until Dec. 7

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—The NFL is giving Adam "Pacman" Jones another chance. Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said Wednesday the suspended cornerback has been reinstated by league commissioner Roger Goodell, but he must miss two more games—this Sunday and the following game on Thanksgiving. He'll be back Dec. 7 at Pittsburgh. "He much appreciates the Cowboys and Jerry Jones for standing behind him and encouraging him, and he's grateful to the commissioner," said Worrick Robinson, Adam Jones' Nashville-based attorney. Jerry Jones would not reveal any conditions the commissioner may have imposed and the league office said it would not have any immediate comment. However, Robinson, said, "He knows what he has to do. It's very clear." "He's a long way, a long way from having clear sailing," Jerry Jones said. Adam Jones was suspended from the entire 2007 season because of multiple incidents while with the Tennessee Titans. Over the offseason, he was traded to Dallas and then given another chance by Goodell. The Cowboys gave him a security team to help keep him in line, but on Oct. 7, Jones got into an alcohol-related scuffle with one of the bodyguards during a private party at a Dallas hotel.

Cards decline to consider releasing Edgerrin James

TEMPE, Ariz. (AP)—The Arizona Cardinals declined to consider releasing Edgerrin James when the running back's agent inquired about the possibility, the team's general manager said Wednesday. Rod Graves said he received a call from agent Drew Rosenhaus three weeks ago after James was benched in favor of rookie Tim Hightower and didn't play a down in Arizona's 34-13 victory at St. Louis. According to Graves, Rosenhaus asked if the team would consider releasing James "and we declined it as a consideration." "I explained to him that we still saw Edgerrin as a valuable member of our football team," Graves said. Rosenhaus has told several news outlets that he asked for James' release, but Graves said, "I don't know that it was that strong." If it had been a direct request, Graves said he would have expected James to personally show up in his office to make it. James has three carries for 5 yards since losing his starting job. The Cardinals would have to return to James if Hightower was injured. The team's other running back, J.J. Arrington, is not considered an every-down player. Releasing James, Graves said, "didn't make sense on several fronts." Graves said he has talked to James since Rosenhaus' call. "He said he was still fully committed to this team and he would not be a distraction," Graves said. "He's been doing everything we asked him to do."

Romo ditches splint a little, TO calls in sick

IRVING, Texas (AP)—Tony Romo is 1-0 since putting on a splint to protect his broken pinkie, and he may have to wear it for his next start—and the one after that. But for a few throws Wednesday, Romo ditched the splint to see how close he might be to playing without it. "It's getting better," Romo said. "Every day that goes by it gets a little bit better. I threw lightly out there without the splint on, so I feel confident." Romo's mild progress was part of a news-filled day for the Cowboys' medical staff, including Terrell Owens going home with flulike symptoms; emerging receiver and fill-in kick returner Miles Austin being lost for up to a month with a knee injury; Isaiah Stanback coming back from a shoulder injury to replace Austin; and rookie running back Felix Jones returning to a portion of practice. Owens is expected to recover in time to play the San Francisco 49ers on Sunday.

Red Sox trade Crisp to Royals for reliever

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—The Kansas City Royals picked up the leadoff hitter they had been seeking, acquiring center fielder Coco Crisp from the Boston Red Sox for reliever Ramon Ramirez on Wednesday. Kansas City was 12th among 14 AL teams in runs last season and added power last month, obtaining first baseman Mike Jacobs from Florida.

The switch-hitting Crisp gives the Royals speed at the top of the lineup and a superb defender in center field who has World Series experience.

"The speed aspect of it was very important," Royals general manager Dayton Moore said. "I've talked many times about the importance of a balanced lineup, speed at the top and the bottom, and Coco certainly gives us that."

The 29-year-old was the subject of trade rumors for much of last season following the emergence of rookie Jacoby Ellsbury.

The two split time in center, with Crisp hitting .283 with seven homers and 41 RBIs in 98 games. He also stole 20 bases in 27 attempts, the third straight season he's reached the 20-steal mark.

Ellsbury hit .280 with nine homers and 47 RBIs last season, proving to the Red Sox that he's ready to be an everyday player. Boston also gains financial savings by trading Crisp, who's due to make $5.75 million next season in a deal that includes an $8 million club option for 2010 with a $500,000 buyout.

"He played through injuries. He played hard," Red Sox general manager Theo Epstein said of Crisp. "With the emergence of Jacoby Ellsbury, we felt like we would be able to find a (backup) outfielder on the market easier than we would find a valuable member of the bullpen."

The Royals got Ramirez, a 27-year-old righty, in a trade with Colorado before last season. They were so impressed with his stuff that they projected him to be their closer.

With a fastball that reaches the mid-90s mph, Ramirez is a power pitcher who seems suited for the late innings. He was one of the primary setup men for closer Joakim Soria and flourished in that spot, going 3-2 with a 2.64 ERA and 70 strikeouts in 71 2-3 innings.

"He's very quietly had a tremendous amount of success in the major leagues over the last 2 1/2 years," Epstein said.

Ramirez figures to play a setup role for closer Jonathan Papelbon and could send Justin Masterson back to the rotation, where he feels more comfortable.

Masterson was 6-5 with a 3.16 ERA in 36 games as a rookie last season—4-3 with a 3.67 ERA in nine starts. As a reliever, he was 2-2 with a 2.36 ERA and worked nine postseason games with a 1.86 ERA and no decisions.

"(He) gives us the flexibility to start Masterson," Epstein said. "Ramirez potentially could replace Masterson in the 'pen."

Boston traded for Crisp after his breakout season—.333, 15 homers, 69 RBIs—with Cleveland in 2005. But a broken finger derailed Crisp's first year in Boston and Epstein said his offense never fully recovered.

Crisp has always been a superb fielder and picked up his offense the last half of 2008, hitting .315. He also hit .417 (10-for-24) in the playoffs, driving in the tying run in the eighth inning to complete Boston's comeback from a 7-0 deficit in Game 5 of the AL championship series against Tampa Bay.

"I play hard and pretty much stay within myself," said Crisp, a career .280 hitter. "I know what I can and cannot do, and with that I think it makes me a pretty good ballplayer. And to help the team, besides stepping on the field, I can hopefully bring a presence into the clubhouse that will help us win, the attitude of winning."

Epstein said the Red Sox hope to replace Crisp with a right-handed fourth outfielder who can play center. He probably will look outside the organization.

The addition of Crisp could signify more moves for the Royals, as well.

Crisp is expected to be the starter in center and Jose Guillen, the highest-paid player in franchise history, is locked in at right. That means Kansas City will have to find a way to get enough playing time for David DeJesus and Mark Teahen.

The loss of Ramirez also creates a hole in the middle of the bullpen that will likely need to be filled from outside the organization.

"I think it's safe to assume there's possible changes, but if we have to begin the season with the core group we finished the season with, it can be managed easily," Moore said.

Girardi: Yankees expect pitcher Mussina to retire

NEW YORK (AP)—Desperate for starting pitchers, the New York Yankees expect to enter next season without 20-game winner Mike Mussina. FoxSports.com reported Wednesday that Mussina intends to retire and will make the move official this week. In the report, the Web site cited unidentified major league sources.

Mussina, who turns 40 next month, would become the first pitcher to call it quits following a 20-win season since Hall of Famer Sandy Koufax in 1966.

"I have not talked to him lately," Yankees manager Joe Girardi said Wednesday evening at a Manhattan charity event to benefit his Catch 25 Foundation and Alzheimer's research. "He had led me to believe that that's what was going to happen at the end of the year. I wasn't quite sure in a sense that I believed him because sometimes when you get away from it you really miss it."

Only 30 wins shy of 300, Mussina was 20-9 with a 3.37 ERA for the Yankees this season—becoming the oldest pitcher in big league history to win 20 games for the first time. The right-hander tossed 200 1-3 innings in 34 starts, rebounding impressively from a disappointing 2007 season that included a career-worst 5.15 ERA.

Mussina has spent 18 years in the majors—the first 10 with Baltimore followed by eight in New York. He filed for free agency after the World Series.

"Mike will be making a decision on his intentions shortly," agent Arn Tellem said in an e-mail to The Associated Press. "Given the significance of this to Mike I would hope you can respect his desire to be the author of any such announcement consistent with his own time table. A decision of this magnitude should not be the subject of unconfirmed rumors and speculation. Accordingly, I am not going to make any further comment until Mike has made his final decision."

The FoxSports.com report said Mussina delayed his retirement announcement until after baseball's major postseason awards had been handed out. He won his seventh Gold Glove and finished tied for sixth in AL Cy Young Award balloting.

"I know he talked about wanting to be home more. And if he does, I won't be surprised," Girardi said. "But if he comes back, I won't be surprised, either. And I wouldn't necessarily be surprised if that's what he said, (then) changes his mind in January. Because you know it's something that's been such a huge part of his life and his family life, that you miss it."

A text message sent to Yankees general manager Brian Cashman was not immediately returned. Girardi said he hadn't spoken with Mussina since the season ended.

Brilliant/Palms sweeps U12 league

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Whispering Palms/Brilliant Star won its last two games in the boys division of the Inaugural 2008 NMIFA U12 Interscholastic Football League to sweep the regular season.

Brilliant/Palms, which is composed of players from the two schools, secured the pennant as early as Wednesday after beating the then undefeated Eucon International School, 1-0.

Kennedy Isuka delivered the game-winning goal in the second half to give Brilliant/Palms a 5-0 record in the Northern Group of the U12 league.

The Brenda Schultz-coached squad made it 6-0 when Brilliant/Palms won via a forfeit over Tanapag Elementary School yesterday.

With a no-show for Tanapag, Schultz had her girls and boys strikers playing in a scrimmage, which ended in a tie 3-3.

"All our players showed up for the game and it would be a waste of time if we will not play, so we went on to have a scrimmage. It's a good practice match for our players as we prepare for the playoffs," Schultz said.

"I am very happy with the way our players (girls and boys) have been playing. They have shown significant improvement as the league progresses. They have jelled well and are playing better each game," Schultz added.

Brilliant/Palms' girls team finished the regular season with a 5-1 record, losing only to Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School during the opening of the league last month.

Brilliant/Palms' girls team is composed of Lucy Ha, Nishta Thomas, Nava Khorram, Kristina Folta, Gabriele Race, Phalai Frink, Nicole Arenovski, Megan Yost, and Neghar Rastguiy.

The boys' team members are Isuka, Kenyon Schultz, Colin and Quintin Ramsey, Aaron lee, Billy Hinson, Danny and John Auther, and Harrison Hill.

Brilliant/Palms' boys team defeated GTC, Garapan Elementary School, Saipan International School and Kagman before sweeping its last two matches.

Koblerville is leading the Southern Group, which also include Dandan A and B, Saipan Community School, William S. Reyes Elementary School, San Vicente, San Antonio, and Oleai.

Several games in the Southern and Northern sides have yet to be completed and organizers of the inaugural league were set to meet last night to determine the schedule of the remaining games before starting the playoffs.

Initially, league ground rules allowed the top two teams from each group to advance to the playoffs.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Nishta Thomas, left, dribbles from the corner and later scored a goal against Kenyon Schultz during WhisperingPalms/Brilliant Star scrimmage yesterday at the Garapan Elementary School Field. A no-show from Tanapag Elementary School forced WhisperingPalms/Brilliant Star to have a scrimmage between the latter's boys and girls team.

NC2011

From Page 36

cific Games organizing committee—dubbed NC2011—present their plans for 2011.

Pacific Games Council secretary general David Boyd said his three-person group is in a yearlong, island-hopping mission to invite member nations of the council to take part in the 2011 Games.

"We are going on a round-trip to the Pacific starting in the north with countries like the CNMI, Guam, and Palau to present the Games. [We want] to show the sports people here three years before the Games where the project is at. More specifically [we're] here to meet with the sports people and learn from them what there expectations are for these Games so that we can make sure they will be comfortable when they go to New Caledonia in three years time," he said.

Boyd added that New Caledonia last hosted the Games in 1997 but at that time the Games were much smaller both in terms of sports played and countries participating.

"Now the Pacific Games are very, very big. We will try to organize the maximum number of sports permitted by the Games charter which is 28."

For her part, NC2011 president Pascale Bastien-Thiry said she expects all 22 countries of the Pacific Games Council to take part in the Games. She added that New Caledonia looks forward to hosting 3,500 athletes—5,000 including officials—in three years time.

"We hope to make these Games the best ever. But the Games in Samoa were very, very well organized and we have great pressure because of that. But we do hope to organize a beautiful and very friendly 2011 Pacific Games. We all look forward to welcoming people of the Northern Marianas to Noumea in 2011," she said.

Asked how much New Caledonia has set aside for the 2011 Pacific Games, Bastien-Thiry said NC2011 will probably spend about $16 million to host the quadrennial event, roughly the same amount used by Samoa in staging the 2007 Games in Apia.

The amount does not include the construction of facilities for the 2011 Games.

She added that about 60 percent of the cost would be shouldered by the government with the rest raised through sponsorships and private donations.

Before arriving in the CNMI for their two-day stay, the New Caledonians visited Guam and plan to brief the sports bodies of Palau and Papua New Guinea before flying back to Noumea.

Boyd and Bastien-Thiry are joined in their whirlwind trip to the North Pacific by NC2011 protocol director Helen Court Wabete. They expect to brief other island nations that are part of the council next April.

Department of Community and Cultural Affairs secretary Cecilia T. Celis also attended the meeting.

INTER

From Page 36

Four teams battled for this year's championship with the list including Independence Will Bill's and Multinational FC. The four teams played in a double round-robin regular season and had a crossover semifinals format in the playoffs.

Inter-Godfather's was seeded first in the playoffs, faced Multinational FC, and won the semifinals, 1-0.

The third-seeded MP United-PTI pulled off a 2-1 upset over the second-ranked Will Bill's in the other semis pairing to set up a title duel with Inter-Godfather's.

Will Bill's settled for third place after blanking Multinational FC, 2-0.

YAMAMOTO

From Page 36

Tenorio. "It's a competitive, Olympic-distance course with the added bonus of being set on a beautiful island, and we thank the KFC Triathlon Club of Japan for working with our community to stage another successful event on Rota."

Japan was well represented at the race, securing a straight victory in the B-type division. In the men's B-type division, Yujiro Harada garnered first place with an overall combined time of 4:20:24. Kodo Hiramatu placed second in 4:25:03, while in third was veteran triathlete Masayuki Matsumaru with an overall combined time of 4:28:14.

In the women's B-type division, Keiko Kimura took first place with an overall combined time of 5:44:35, Takako Morinaga placed second in 5:59:04, and Shigeyo Muneta completed the race with an overall combined time of 6:27:12.

The competitors started the annual Blue Triathlon with a swim course through the tepid water of the island's East Harbor. Triathletes then biked a 40-km course along scenic, paved and dirt roads from Sinapalo Village through Sasanhaya Bay Lookout and back to East Harbor. The race finished with a 10-km run up the eastside of the island through the panoramic Alaguan Bay Lookout.

As in previous years, Kiyokazu Onishi of the KFC Triathlon Club of Japan organized the annual Rota Blue Triathlon with the support of the Rota community. Rota Mayor Joseph S. Inos expressed his appreciation to Onishi and the KFC Triathlon Club of Japan's organization for "being a true friend and partner to the people of Rota."

He also acknowledged the hard work and generous support of the sponsors and government departments, offices, and employees who helped make the event a success.

During the awards banquet, Mayor Inos and president Onishi also made special recognition of longtime triathlete Noboru Nomura, who completed the triathlon with a total time of 5:22:58, and 11-year-old Kenta Suganuma, who completed the 15th edition in 3:14:26 as the youngest competitor.

The 15th Annual Rota Blue Triathlon is one of four major triathlon events held in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands—the others being the XTERRA Saipan Championship, Tagaman Triathlon, and the Tinian Turquoise Blue events.

Onishi also thanked the Marianas Visitors Authority, Mayor Inos and his staff members, Bay Breeze Restaurant & Bar, Department of Public Safety (Boating, Traffic & Fire Division), the Rota Resort & Country Club, Rota Health Center, Department of Public Works, System Clinic, Body Tune, Rota Municipal Council, Department of Labor, Department of Finance, Department of Commerce, Mark Michael, Budweiser, Mid-Pac, and Ruben & Sirena for assisting with the annual event. ***(PR)***

TEIGITA

From Page 36

for the winning run.

The game was tied, 7-all, after P&S scored three runs at the top of the seventh capitalizing on DEQ/CRM's errors. P&S scored two runs on DEQ/CRM's outfielders errors and one more on extra hitter Joe Quitugua's single.

Lizama led off for DEQ/CRM at the bottom of the first and advanced on a P&S shortstop error. Second batter John Delos Reyes flied out, while third batter and extra hitter Larry Sugiyama moved to first on another P&S miscue. With Sugiyama on first and Lizama on third, Manibusan stepped upto the plate and made the game-winning hit.

Outfielder Jesse Borja led DEQ/CRM at-bat going 3-for-3. He had a three-run homer at the bottom of the sixth allowing DEQ/CRM to take a 7-4 lead. Borja scored three runs and five RBIs.

Leftfielder Jack Diaz went 3-for-3 for P&S, but it was not enough to keep his team dropping to a 1-3 record.

Jets 16, CUC 3

In the second game in the men's division, the Joeten Motors Jets regained its form after whipping the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., 16-3.

The Jets had their three-game winning run snapped by defending champion Department of Community and Cultural Affairs last week, 7-17.

But the Jets quickly recovered allowing CUC to score only in the fourth inning.

The Jets pitcher J.J. Laniyo gave up only two hits in the first three innings to shut out CUC before a two-run double by Jeff Cabrera put CUC into the scoreboard. Leftfielder Oscar Sablan gave CUC its third run when his single drove first baseman Jeff Cabrera home.

Despite making it to the scoreboard, CUC was still behind, 3-10, after four complete innings and failed to extend the game when the Jets defense shut the former anew at the bottom of the fifth.

Shortstop Cliff Silil and Laniyo were both perfect at-bat hitting 3-for-3. Laniyo scored three runs, two singles, a triple and two RBIs.

The Jets handed CUC its third loss in four matches.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	10	2	.833	_
New York	6	5	.545	3 1/2
Toronto	6	5	.545	3 1/2
Philadelphia	5	6	.455	4 1/2
New Jersey	4	6	.400	5

Southeast Division

Orlando	8	3	.727	_
Atlanta	7	4	.636	1
Miami	6	6	.500	2 1/2
Charlotte	3	7	.300	4 1/2
Washington	1	8	.111	6

Central Division

Cleveland	9	3	.750	_
Detroit	8	3	.727	1/2
Indiana	5	5	.500	3
Chicago	5	7	.417	4
Milwaukee	5	8	.385	4 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

Houston	7	5	.583	_
New Orleans	5	5	.500	1
San Antonio	5	6	.455	1 1/2
Dallas	5	7	.417	2
Memphis	4	7	.364	2 1/2

Northwest Division

Denver	8	4	.667	_
Utah	8	4	.667	_
Portland	7	5	.583	1
Minnesota	2	8	.200	5
Oklahoma City	1	11	.083	7

Pacific Division

L.A. Lakers	8	1	.889	_
Phoenix	8	4	.667	1 1/2
Golden State	5	6	.455	4
Sacramento	5	8	.385	5
L.A. Clippers	2	9	.182	7

Yesterday's Games

Atlanta 91, Washington 87
Toronto 101, Miami 95
Detroit 96, Cleveland 89
Dallas 96, Houston 86
L.A. Clippers 108, Oklahoma City 88
Sacramento 105, New Orleans 96
Minnesota 102, Philadelphia 96
Denver 91, San Antonio 81
Utah 105, Milwaukee 94
Portland 116, Chicago 74

By The Associated Press

LOCAL SCORES

BUDWEISER SOFTBALL STANDINGS

Men's Division

Freedom Air	3	0
DCCA	3	0
Legislature	3	0
Beach Boys	3	0
CPA	3	0
DLNR	3	1
Joeten Motors	3	1
Law & Order	2	1
Saipan Cell	1	2
No Zone	2	2
POI	2	2
DEQ/CRM	2	2
PSS	1	2
Customs	1	2
CUC	1	3
CHC	1	3
P & S	1	3
PIC	0	3
Hopwood	0	4
Mayors	0	4

Women's Division

NMC	2	0
DCCA	2	1
Finance	2	2
CHC	1	2
CUC	0	2

Budweiser caging to uncork Dec. 10

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSISTANT EDITOR

The 2008-2009 Budweiser Basketball League will uncork next month with seven teams already signifying their participation in the premiere basketball competition on Saipan.

According to Basketball Association of the Northern Mariana Islands director and Budweiser caging coordinator Abner Venus, the league will have a kick-off date of Dec. 10.

He said defending champion Rock Steady, Junior Nationals, Ol'Aces I and II, Jesse Tudela's Sonics, Ray Duenas' Sixers, and Arnold Mesa's Master All-Star Selection are the teams that have signed up for the competition.

Venus hopes to add more teams from the current seven-team field by attracting from other leagues, especially champions of those competitions.

"We would like to invite the Inter-Government/Business League champions PTI, Tinian Dynasty Team, and other teams to enter in this year's Budweiser Basketball League. We would also like to send an invitation to those teams who were crowned champions from the other outside leagues. If you think that you are a real champion team come and join the Budweiser Basketball League and prove to us that you deserve to be called champions," he said.

Venus said that BANMI is also planning to use the Budweiser Basketball League as a training ground for the FIBA Oceania Championship, which the CNMI is hosting on June 2009. BANMI is a member of FIBA Oceania.

"This is a challenge to all those teams that believe that they are good. Come and join the Budweiser Basketball League and show us that you can play the real game of basketball," added Venus.

Formerly known as Bud Cup, the Budweiser Basketball League is cognizant of the fact that money is tight right now and that's why, according to Venus, the entrance fee has been dropped from $800 to $500.

Venus added that BANMI is also implementing the $5 membership fee for each player, which is exclusive of the team entrance fee.

Participating teams will have to abide to FIBA rules and can only field a 12-player lineup in the Budweiser Basketball League.

Aside from the Budweiser caging, BANMI will also be hosting a 3-on-3 tournament on Dec. 6 and 7 and Venus promised that a ton of prizes and giveaways will be given to the top teams.

For more inquiries about the Budweiser Basketball League, Abner Venus at 234-5911 or Elias Rangamar at 664-2502.

Rock Steady defeated the Saipan Stevedore Suns, 92-78, in the Bud Cup finals last February at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. The win completed the team's back-to-back title bid. Rock Steady is composed mostly of players from the CNMI Men's National Team that competed in the 6th Micronesian Games, which Saipan hosted in 2006.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE
Fred Pelisamen and the rest of the Rock Steady team won the 2007 edition of the Budweiser Cup after beating the Saipan Stevedore Suns in the finals.

Mongami wins Nov. 17 USS Peleliu 8-ball

John Mongami didn't lose a game in taking the USS Peleliu Club Monday 8-Ball Tournament last Nov. 17.

Mongami sent two-time defending champ Dean Santos to the losers' bracket, got by Taylor Watanabe, then defeated the sports bar and watering hole's owner Ken Phillips in the final.

Santos had topped Phillips in the winners' bracket, while Watanabe beat Ron Chisato and Annie Tesiro.

In close games, Phillips eliminated Tesiro, won his rematch with Santos, and squeaked by Watanabe to reach the final.

The Monday tournaments start at 8pm, according to Phillips, "but USSP tries to allow for 'island time.' If somebody calls ahead, we try to fit them in," he said, "unless we've already finished the first round when they show up."

"Sometimes we can't win," he added. "This time a couple of players called, but four people got tired of waiting and walked out. The week before three players were a few minutes too late."

In related news, the Marianas Turkey Shoot starts at 7pm on Nov. 26, and Phillips thinks it's a good idea to be on time for that one. "We've filled the 16-player bracket in previous years," he said, "probably because the winners get frozen turkeys on top of the cash prizes."

Roger Espiritu and Rick Rengiil took the turkeys last year, with Rengiil's only losses coming in their head-to-head matches.

Because of the $15 entry fee, a 16-player field would yield awards of $120, $75, and $45 for first, second, and third places.

USSP's 8-ball tournaments are double elimination (two losses), played by Billiards Congress of America rules.

For more information about the USSP's 8-ball tourneys, call Rose or Ken Phillips at 233-1984. "And call ahead if you're going to be late," Ken Phillips added.

Monday is the last chance to get 8-ball tournament practice for USSP's annual Marianas Turkey Shoot. ***(USSP)***

Budweiser bowling returns this Sunday and Monday

The King of Beers will again host the King and Queen of the Lanes Bowling Tournament this Sunday and Monday, Nov. 23 and 24, at the Saipan Bowling Center in Oleai.

Sunday's Budweiser roll-off would begin at 3:30pm, while Monday's competition starts at 6pm. Registration starts 30 minutes prior to game time. Awarding ceremonies immediately follow the end of competition on Monday.

The competition is exclusive for SBA members with participants limited to the first 60 entries for each day.

Members have the option to bowl on the Sunday or Monday, or on both days, provided that the $15 entry fee is paid. Bowlers who did not bowl on Sunday will be given priority for the Monday shift. Only the higher score will count for the tournament. All participants have to pay the $15 SBA annual membership fee.

The champion is guaranteed $100 in prize money but it could go up to as much $150 depending on the number of participants. Women participants will only have separate prizes if there are at least 10 entries.

Youth bowlers (12 to 19 years old, not bowling in any leagues or averaging less than 170 in any league), meanwhile, will duke it out in the Bing Energy Drink Prince and Princess of the Lanes Tenpin Bowling Tournament in Day 1 of the monthly competition. Entry fee is $10 for the Bing Energy Drink Prince and Princess of the Lanes.

After being sponsor-less for the whole of 2007, the Saipan Bowling Association's monthly King and Queen of the Lanes Tenpin Bowling Tournament as well as its season-ending bowlfest has secured the help of MARPAC for this year's competition.

The Budweiser King and Queen of the Lanes Tournament aims to crown 12 monthly champions through the course of the year.

For early registration and payment, see or contact Gigi or Ross Zapanta at 288-5627 or email zapanta@pticom.com. ***(SBA)***

Demapan wins SGA November Ace tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Joe Demapan is assured of a slot to the Saipan Golfers Association Ace of the Aces tournament next month after winning the November Ace Tournament at the Coral Ocean Point course Sunday.

Demapan won this month's plum over 26 other participants after shooting a net 60. The 13-handicapper Demapan had the second best gross score in the field, firing a 1-over par 73. Former Superior Court presiding judge Ed Manibusan recorded the lowest gross in the tournament, drilling an even par 72.

A good start put Demapan in a position to take the November Ace as he carded an even-par 36 on the front nine before slowing down a bit on the back with a 1-over par 37. He won by only a stroke against Martin Sablan, a 26-handicapper who posted a 44 and 43 on the front and back nines, respectively, for a net 61 and gross 87.

Finishing third was the 17-handicapper Frank Rosario, who nailed a net 67 after tallying a 40 on the front and 44 on the back for a gross 84.

Demapan's November Ace-winning performance was highlighted by birdies on the par-5 No. 9, par-3 No. 12, par-4, No. 13, and par-3, No. 14

Demapan and Manibusan were the two golfers to make the most birdies in the tournaments. Manibusan birdied hole Nos. 1, 5, 12, and 14.

Ned Norita had only two birdies (No. 16 and N0. 8), but hit the lone eagle—a first in SGA this year—on the par-5 No. 9.

Rick Kautz also had two birdies (No. 5 and No. 10), while Ron Hodges and Frank and Joe Rosario made one apiece.

Norita added two longest drive shots on No. 9 and No. 18 to his lone eagle, while Demapan had two greenies (No. 3 and No. 14), and Frank Rosario and Martin Sablan tallied one greenies apiece on No. 7 and No. 12, respectively.

Demapan will play in the SGA Ace of the Aces (Dec. 13 and 14) against this year's monthly winners Mariano Fajardo (January), Jose I. Sablan (February), Norita (March), Larry I. Deleon Guerrero (April), Manibusan (June), Nobert Sablan (July), Hodges (August), Art Deleon Guerrero (September), Steve Balakrishna (October), and the December Ace winner.

The last ticket to the SGA Ace of the Aces will be at stake at the December Ace Tournament to be played on Nov. 30 at the Marianas Country Club in Marpi.

Check-in and tee time will be announced later.

For more information, contact SGA president Martin Sablan at 483-6278, vice president John Takai at 484-3045, secretary Larry Guerrero at 287-1052, or tournament coordinator Mariano Fajardo at 483-2549.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE
Joe Demapan, shown in this file photo, won the Saipan Golfers Association's November Ace Tournament at the Coral Ocean Point course last Sunday.

Ol'Aces basketball tryouts set

Ol'Aces basketball club coach Elias Rangamar will be conducting tryouts for players interested in suiting up for the club in a Christmas caging next month.

Rangamar said the tryouts will run from 9am to 12nn this Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. Tryouts are open to boys and girls in the 14-and-under and 18-and-under age groups.

"Players are asked to come in proper sports attire and bring bottled water," Rangamar said.

For more information, contact Rangamar at 664-2502 or via email at eli_rang@yahoo.com.

The Holiday Hoops concluded early January 2008 with G-Stars winning, 62-60, over Junior Sonics thanks to Joseph Jung's last-second basket. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

Budweiser caging to uncork Dec. 10

The 2008-2009 Budweiser Basketball League will uncork next month with seven teams already signifying their participation in the premiere basketball competition on Saipan. 35

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Iverson scores 23 to push Pistons past Cavs

The Allen Iverson-led Detroit Pistons have cooled off two of the NBA's best teams in less than a week. 32

NC2011 makes pitch to CNMI

MARK RABAGO
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

Organizers of the 2011 Pacific Games in New Caledonia personally invited athletes from the CNMI to take part in the 14th staging of the quadrennial event during a special briefing Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium conference room.

Members of the local sports governing body, led by Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association president Michael A. White, attended the meeting that saw New Caledonia's Pa-

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MARK RABAGO

Pacific Games Council secretary general David Boyd, sitting right, protocol director Helen Court Wabete, sitting second right, and NC2011 president Pascale Bastien-Thiry, sitting third right, pose with NMASA members after holding a special briefing at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium Wednesday. Also in the photo is Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Cecilia T. Celis.

Inter-Godfather's hoists its third title in 2008

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Inter-Godfather's outgunned MP United-PTI in a shootout, 5-4, to top the 2008 NMIFA Men's Football Fall League Sunday at the Oleai Sports Complex Filed.

CNMI National player Peter Loken scored the winning goal, hitting one to the upper right corner to give Inter-Godfather's its third championship this year. Inter outlasted Onwel, 1-0, in the finals of the President's Cup Football Tournament in March and FC Arirang, 2-1, in the 2008 Saipan Cup in August.

Against MP United-PTI in the finals, Inter-Godfather's drew first blood leading 1-0 at halftime. A late goal from one of the new players of MP United tied the game and sent the championship match to a shootout.

The first three players from each team to step up to the penalty box scored to keep the game in a deadlock.

Inter-Godfather's could have seized the lead, 3-2, but a key save from Inter goalie John Lee was nullified as he stepped on the line early.

Lee redeemed himself in the ensuing defensive play, diving for the ball and preventing the fourth MP United shooter from making a goal.

Loken sealed the win with his goal on the upper right corner.

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Inter-Godfather's Peter Houk, left, tries to keep the ball away from an MP United-PTI defender during their championship game in the 2008 NMIFA Men's Football Fall League Sunday at the Oleai Sports Complex Filed.

PETER BONSER

Teigita hits back-to-back homers in DLNR win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Department of Land and Natural Resources overpowered Hopwood in a high scoring game, 25-16, in the Budweiser 2008 Inter-Government/Business Softball League Monday night at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

DLNR shut out Hopwood in the last inning to escape with a win, the former's third in four games.

After six complete innings, DLNR was ahead, 22-16. It added two earned runs and one off Hopwood's error at the top of the seventh.

Hopwood must score at least nine runs to extend the game, but the team was done after only three batters. The first batter was beaten to first, while the last two flied out dropping Hopwood to a dismal 0-4 record.

Four DLNR players went 3-for-4 at-bat, including leftfielder Pete Teigita, who had back-to-back homers in the fifth and sixth inning and scored five RBIs. Catcher Paul Lisua also made a homer in the sixth inning and recorded three RBIs.

DEQ/CRM 8, P&S 7

Division of Environmental Quality/ Coastal Resources Management gained its second win in four games after outclassing Procurement & Supply, 8-7, in the first game of the night.

Centerfielder Ed Manibusan singled at the bottom of the last inning driving catcher Jacob Lizama home

See TEIGITA on Page 34

Yamamoto dominates Rota Blue Triathlon

In a picturesque setting framed by clear blue skies, 118 triathletes competed in the 15th Annual Rota Blue Triathlon held on the southernmost island of the Northern Marianas chain last Sunday.

Japan's 2008 Beijing Olympian Ryosuke Yamamoto crossed the finish line of the 1.5- kilometer swim, 40-km bike, and 10-km Olympic-distance race with a winning time of 1:57:18 in the men's A-type division.

Fellow Japanese contender Yuuya Fukaura was the second finisher of the men's division, eight minutes behind the winner in 2:05:15, with Japan native Yu Yumoto placing a close third with a total combined time of 2:08:11.

In the women's A-type division, Satomi Ookouchi of Japan dominated first place, finishing in 2:28:08. Guam's native Sarah Mutler took second with a total combined time of 2:57:36, while Japan's Nahoko Niwatook finished close on the heels of Mutler in 2:59:20.

"After 15 years of races, we're pleased the Rota Blue Triathlon is still going strong and continuing to attract international triathletes," said Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry

See YAMAMOTO on Page 34

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Rota Mayor Joseph S. Inos and president Kiyokazu Onishi of the KFC Triathlon of Japan give special recognition following the Rota Blue Triathlon to eldest participating triathlete Noboru Nomura and youngest competitor Kenta Suganuma. From left, Mayor Inos, Nomura, Suganuma, and Onishi.